

Thomas Fox

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PRUSSIAN POLITICS.

A CONSTITUTIONAL struggle in any part of the world always excites a deep interest among Englishmen: and that now in progress in Prussia has perhaps more than ordinary claims upon our attention. We have long been connected by ties of alliance and friendship with that Power, and, though occasional hitches may have occurred between our policy and hers, we have never been positively at variance with her. Prussia is the principal Protestant nation of the Continent, in which fact there is another bond of union between her and us, though, to be sure, that consideration has much less influence on the sympathies and policy of nations now than it had once. But there are two considerations which make the events now transpiring in Prussia peculiarly interesting to the British people. In the first place, the eldest daughter of England is the wife of the heir to the Prussian crown, and the future welfare and position of the Princess Royal and her children are involved in the happiness, content, and prosperity of the people of her adopted country: facts which alone are sufficient to account for the interest with which Englishmen generally watch Prussian politics. In the next place, in accordance with the somewhat egotistic habit we have acquired of regarding our own history and institutions as models for every other people, there is a very general idea prevalent in this country

that the events now occurring in Prussia present a close parallel to a period of our own history which we are accustomed to consider the most important in it. We mean, of course, the contest between Charles I. and the Parliament. This idea, though substantially correct, is yet erroneous in various important particulars. History, no doubt, has a tendency to repeat itself in its general outlines in different countries and among different peoples, just as human nature repeats itself in its general features; but there are always important variations in details, as there are individual characteristics in men. Let us point out one or two of the particulars in which the supposed parallel between the present Prussian and the great English Constitutional struggle does not hold. The dispute between William I. and his people is not as to raising money, but as to its appropriation—a point which was scarcely mooted in England at all. Charles I. had practically no permanent public revenue, and no standing army, and therefore could not go on without either obtaining grants of taxes from Parliament, or raising those taxes without its consent. Finding that he could not succeed in obtaining money from Parliament except upon conditions with which he did not choose to comply, Charles tried raising the necessary funds on his own responsibility, and what the result was all readers of history know. The King of Prussia, on the other hand, has had taxes imposed which he is

perfectly entitled to collect, and which cannot be repealed except with the consent of both Chambers and of the Crown. If he can manage to carry on the Government with the income already secured to him, he is practically independent of his Parliament, and may even dispense with it altogether, so far as financial matters are concerned. He has, moreover, a powerful army at his command, and is therefore in possession of the means, if he choose to employ them, of suppressing any attempt to upset his Government by force—a contingency which is, on that very account, exceedingly unlikely to occur. The Prussian Ruler has thus an advantage on two most important points, which the unhappy English Monarch did not possess. And it was on this very question of the army that the breach between King and Parliament in Prussia occurred. The King was anxious to remodel the national forces in such a way as to render the regular army more efficient, as he believed, and to make dependence on the landwehr or militia less necessary. His plans, however, could not be carried out without increasing the number, and therefore the cost, of the permanent forces; and here the right of Parliament to vote the Budget came in his way, and the difference arose which now distracts the country. The Chamber of Deputies refused to sanction the augmented expenditure; the King was obstinately bent on having his way; Ministry after Ministry was changed; Par-



DESTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY ENGINE-HOUSE AT NEW CROSS BY THE GALE OF FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30.

liament after Parliament was dissolved; and the result is the embittered contest which now divides Sovereign and people, at a time when they ought especially to have been united in order to maintain the position which Prussia aspired to occupy in Germany and in the world.

Naturally, other elements of discord have arisen in the course of the contest. The King has undoubtedly been guilty of grave violations of the Constitution. He has expended the public money on his own responsibility, and he disregards the right of appropriation vested in the Chambers; he has suppressed liberty of speech and of the press; his Ministers have treated the Chamber with insult and defiance; and it is believed that he or his advisers entertain a design of abrogating the Constitution altogether and governing in a despotic manner. We do not believe that the King himself, who is generally considered to be an honest, though a misguided and headstrong man, is yet prepared to adopt so violent a measure. But it may come to that by-and-by. And what will occur then? Are the people likely to submit tamely to such a wrong? And if not, in what way can they resist it? The King, as we have said, has a powerful army at his back; he is supported by the feudal party, which comprises nearly all the aristocratic portion of his subjects; the national forces are officered almost exclusively from this class, which is prepared to go nearly any lengths in resisting the increase of popular influence; the Upper House supports the Royal policy; the King's present Ministers are at once bold, unscrupulous, and self-confident. It is true that this last appeal to the people has not substantially improved the position of the Government in the House. They have obtained a few more votes than they had in the last Assembly; but this gain is more than counterbalanced by the fact that many men of moderate and conciliatory views, as always happens in such contests, have been replaced by advocates of more extreme measures; and the prospect of inducing the Chamber to yield is, consequently, more remote than ever. The Conservatives, or out-and-out supporters of Government, in the new Chamber muster about forty-three, instead of eleven in the last; but there is an overwhelming majority of at least 260 Oppositionists, who on all great questions will vote together. Can the Bismarck Cabinet hold its position, and the King pursue his designs, in face of such an opposition as this? and should both persist, what means has the Chamber of checking them? These are important questions which we shall look with interest to see solved. The most effectual weapon in the hands of the representatives of the people would be financial embarrassment on the part of the Government; and we see it is proposed to produce this result by refusing to pay the taxes, not on the ground that they are levied illegally, but that they are spent illegally. The advocates of this step allege that as the Government has repeatedly violated the Constitution, the people are justified in doing so too, and fighting their antagonists with their own weapons. But it is obvious that the success of this measure will depend on whether or not it can be carried out on a sufficiently extensive scale. If only a few individuals refuse to pay taxes, they will become victims; but if it be done on a large scale, so as to compel the Government to distrain for the sums claimed, and so become possessors of immense quantities of household chattels, useless to it, and which nobody will buy, the result may be very great inconvenience and even positive difficulty to the ruling power. This, however, presupposes a large amount of determination and self-sacrifice on the part of the people. Are they capable of rising to the height of this great argument? Time must show; but of this they may be assured, that, if they are not, they run grave risks of losing even the moderate degree of self-government which they are now supposed to possess.

But, after all, perhaps the wisest course for the Prussian constitutionalists to pursue is to be firm, be moderate, and—wait. They are in the right, and the King is in the wrong. Let them stand calmly upon their own rights, but make no assault upon his, and the tide of events cannot fail to turn in their favour. The King is an old man, and must in the course of nature pass away from the sphere of action ere many years elapse. His son and successor is understood to entertain much more liberal views than his father, and is even believed to be now living in a sort of voluntary exile in this country in order not to be in any way identified with current events at home. The course the King's Government has taken on the Polish question, the probable troubles with Denmark, and other causes, may reduce the Royal Treasury to such straits as to make new taxes indispensable; and then Parliament will have an opportunity of making its own terms, and may obtain those real constitutional guarantees for an effective control over the national finances and those securities for public liberty which at present it only nominally possesses, but which experience has proved are of little real value.

The position of the King himself must be anything but pleasant, and he cannot be insensible to its inconveniences. Estranged from his children, so unpopular with his subjects that he is slighted when he appears in public, condemned by the general voice of Europe for making himself the abettor of Russian cruelty to the Poles, feeling that the leadership in the councils of Germany is being wrested from him by Austria, and with only a miserable camarilla to support and sympathise with him—truly, this is not an enviable position for the Sovereign of a first-rate Power to occupy. And all this, too, when, if he would but abandon his absurd notions about the Divine right of kings and do his people justice, he might be the ruler of one of the most intelligent, prosperous, and contented nations in the world. Had William I. pursued a different course, he might have had his people to back him

heartily in any contest of Prussia against the rest of Germany in the first place, and of Germany against the world in the second; for it is a characteristic of the Prussians of all classes that they will make almost any sacrifice for what they deem the dignity and importance of their portion of fatherland in particular, and of fatherland at large in general. It must be a species of madness which could induce a king to alienate the affections of such a people.

DESTRUCTION OF A RAILWAY ENGINE-SHED AT NEW-CROSS.

THE most serious accident which occurred in London during the terrible storm which swept over the country at the end of last week happened on Friday, the 29th ult., at the New-cross station of the London, Brighton, and South-Coast Railway. As everyone who has occasion to travel on any of the lines from London Bridge must be aware, there are several large engine-sheds in the neighbourhood of Hatcham Park. In one of these sheds, on Friday afternoon, about a dozen men were working, principally engine-fitters, stokers, and drivers. There were also four or five engines getting up steam, two of them being ready to go out, when the wind rushed in at the lower end of the shed with terrific force, and, there being no vent for it, first blew off the roof, notwithstanding it was braced with heavy iron girders, and then threw down one side of the building. The side which was blown out fell across the rails of the Croydon line, completely blocking them with a mass of bricks and rubbish. The other side of the building, against which several hundred tons of coke were piled, fell inwards on the space occupied by the building, which was immediately covered by a mass of bricks, heavy iron girders, and broken beams of timber. In point of fact, the building was as completely demolished as if it had been a card house blown down by a breath of wind. The men engaged in the building fled for their lives at the first alarm, but before they could get out several of them were completely buried in the ruins. One man, named H. T. Woodrow, was killed on the spot by the falling of an engine upon him. He was found completely doubled up, his back being crushed and both thighs broken. His head was also frightfully wounded by the falling of iron rods. He was an engine-fitter, and about twenty-three years of age. Three other men, named George Cutts, William Smith, and Charles Privett, were also injured by the falling girders. Cutts had his back broken and his right leg fractured in two places; Smith had both legs broken, and Privett his legs and arms broken. All the unfortunate men were removed, as soon as they could be dug out of the ruins, to Guy's Hospital, where they were attended to, and are reported to be progressing favourably. The other men who were engaged in the shed at the time fortunately escaped with no greater injury than cuts and bruises. The bursting of the building is described as being accompanied by a report like that of a park of artillery. For a few minutes there was an awful scene of confusion; the demolition of the place was complete, and nothing was to be seen but a confused mass of bricks, broken beams, and coke, heavy iron girders and rods sticking up here and there, engines overturned, and the whole enveloped in steam from the broken engines. Mr. Craven, the superintendent of the engine department and the chief officer at the New-cross station, happened, fortunately, to be in his office at the time, and immediately hurried to the spot. His first care was to stop the traffic both on the up and down lines, and to see that none of the rubbish had fallen on the main line to Brighton, which was only a few yards off. Some hundreds of men from the neighbouring sheds had rushed to the spot where the accident had occurred; and, under the direction of Mr. Craven, one party commenced clearing the lines while another proceeded to extricate the men who had been buried. After a portion of the rubbish had been removed it was found that the rails had been completely destroyed in every direction. Four or five engines were either lying on their sides or resting on the ground with their wheels off. One engine, however, escaped altogether. The value of the property destroyed must be several thousand pounds. It is a singular fact that, while this shed was thus destroyed, another and much larger one, in the immediate vicinity, escaped. The same blast of wind which levelled the one lifted the roof of the other completely off; but, the wind finding sufficient vent, it settled into its former position without any other injury than the smashing of a few panes of glass.

The fatal occurrence was thus described by the witnesses examined at the inquest on the body of Woodrow, held on Monday:—John White said he was an engine-driver, and on the afternoon of the accident he was engaged in the shed in question upon his engine. Witness was at work at the front end of the engine, and the deceased was engaged in screwing on a nut near the buffer of the engine, on the right side. At this time, which was about half-past three or a quarter to four, witness saw some pieces of coke and dirty waste used in cleaning the engines, blowing with great velocity round the front of the shed. There was only one end entrance to the shed, and three double doors. The witness saw two of the double doors open, and these were blown about. A very sharp blast of wind came into the shed, and while in the pit he saw several slates leave the roof at the entry to the shed, and then at least one half the roof lifted up. Witness, together with his fireman and another fitter, ran under the engine, but had scarcely got there before he heard a crash and found the engine sinking down. On the dust and steam clearing away, he found that the roof of the building had been blown off and that the walls had fallen down. That on the south-west side had fallen in and the other had fallen outwards. After a time witness saw the deceased, who was partly on the platform, where he had been standing, bent forward, with his head towards the engine-pit, apparently jammed in with the weight of the fallen wall. There was blood about the head and face of the deceased, and when released he was quite dead. The engine was forced off the rail on the right-hand side, and the wheels forced away from the box. If it had fallen more witness and the other men under the engine must have been crushed to death. Mr. Joseph Craven, assistant locomotive superintendent to the London and Brighton Railway Company, said, about twenty or twenty-five minutes to four on the afternoon in question he was at a building at the station known as the Stores' Room. Hearing a heavy rumbling noise, he ran out, and saw that the shed spoken of had fallen. One side wall fell inwards and the other outwards, with the roof lying in the ruins, which were scattered across the up-Croydon lines of rails. The distance of the furthest lines of the rails from the shed was 27 ft. Pieces of timber and slate off the roof had been carried to a distance of at least 60 yards. The length of the building was 145 ft., 42 ft. wide, and the spring of the roof was 19 ft. from the ground. It was substantially built, the walls being 14 in. in thickness, with piers at intervals of 21 ft. 23 in. in thickness. The spring from the wall to the ridge of the roof was 9 ft. The top was composed of iron and wood, iron girders composed of T-iron being built in the walls. Witness had known the building fourteen years, and believed it would, under ordinary circumstances, have stood for half a century more, or a longer period. It stood north and south, and with a hurricane blowing, as it appeared, from the south-west, his opinion was that the wind, entering the building, had forced the roof off and caused the walls to collapse by the lifting.

The Coroner here observed that he thought it was useless to pursue the inquiry further, as the cause of the accident was clearly an event no human foresight could have guarded against. The jury unanimously concurred in these observations, and returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

ACCORDING TO THE NEW CONSTITUTION OF VENEZUELA slavery is forever abolished in that State. Every slave who places his feet upon her soil will be considered free and taken under the protection of the Republic.

THE EMBANKMENT OF THE NORTH SIDE OF THE THAMES has at last begun. One of the obstructions, within which the river wall is to be built, is now fixed in its place, and it is to be hoped the work will now go on continuously. The portion of the embankment from Waterloo Bridge to Blackfriars has still to be contracted for.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE. OPENING OF THE FRENCH CHAMBERS. THE EMPEROR'S SPEECH.

The French Chambers were opened at one o'clock on Thursday by the Emperor, who delivered the following Speech:—

Messieurs les Sénateurs,
Messieurs les Députés,

The annual assembling of the great bodies of the State is always a happy occasion, which brings together men devoted to the public welfare, and permits the manifestation of the truth to the country. The freedom of our mutual communications calms anxieties and strengthens our resolutions. I give you welcome, then. The Legislative Body has been renewed for the third time since the foundation of the Empire, and for the third time, in spite of some local disagreements, I have only to congratulate myself upon the result of the elections. You have all taken the same oath of allegiance to me. It answers for your concurrence. Our duty is to do the business of the country promptly and well, remaining faithful to the Constitution which has given us eleven years of prosperity, and which you have sworn to maintain.

The exposé of home affairs will show you that, in spite of the forced stagnation in certain branches of labour, progress has not slackened. Our industry has contended with advantage against foreign competition, and the fears excited by the treaty of commerce with England have vanished before undeniable facts. Our exports in the first months of the year 1863, compared with those of the corresponding months of the year 1862, have increased by 233,000,000. During the same period the movement of maritime navigation has exceeded the figure of the preceding epoch by 175,000 tons, 136,000 of which were under the French flag. The abundant harvest of this year is a blessing of Providence which ought to ensure a cheaper subsistence to the population. It shows also the prosperity of our agriculture. Public works have been pursued with activity. About 1000 kilometres of new railway lines have been opened. Our ports, our rivers, our canals, our roads, have continued to improve. The Session having commenced sooner than usual, the report of the Minister of Finance has not yet been published. It will be shortly. You will see from it that, although our hopes have not been completely realised, the revenue has followed an ascending course, and that, without extraordinary resources, we have met the expenses occasioned by the wars in Mexico and Cochinchina. I must point out to you several reforms considered necessary; among others, the decrees relative to the liberty of the baking trade, that which makes the maritime inscription less onerous to the population of the coasts, the project which modifies the law as to coalitions of working men, and that which suppresses the exclusive privileges of theatres. I have also directed a law to be prepared destined to increase the privileges of the general and communal councils, and to remedy the excesses of centralisation; in fact, to simplify administrative formalities and to soften the legislation applicable to classes worthy of all our solicitude. This will be a progress with which you will desire to associate yourselves. You will also have to occupy yourselves with the sugar question, which requires to be decided by firmer legislation. The bill submitted to the Council of State tends to grant to indigenous produce the facility of exportation enjoyed by other productions. A law as to registration will abolish the double decime, and will replace that surtax by a more just imposition. In Algeria, in spite of the anomaly which subjects the same populations, the one to the civil power, the other to the military power, the Arabs have understood how much the French domination was restorative and equitable, without the Europeans having had less confidence in the protection of the Government. Our ancient colonies have seen the barriers restricting their transactions disappear; but circumstances have not been favourable to the development of commerce. The recent establishment of a credit institution will, I hope, bring about the amelioration of its condition. In the midst of these material cares nothing that concerns religion, the mind, or morality has been neglected. Religious works of benevolence, the arts, the sciences, and public instruction have received numerous encouragements. Since 1848 the children at school have increased by one fourth. At present nearly five millions of children (a third gratuitously) are received in the primary schools; but our efforts ought not to slacken, seeing that 600,000 are still deprived of instruction. An impulse has been given to high-class studies in secondary schools, in which special education is being reorganised. Such is, gentlemen, the summary of what we have already done and what we still intend to do.

Assuredly the prosperity of our country would make more rapid progress if political anxieties did not trouble it; but in the life of nations unforeseen and inevitable events happen, which ought to be looked at without fear, and supported without weakness. Of this number are the American war, the forced occupation of Mexico and Cochinchina, and the insurrection in Poland. Distant expeditions, the object of so many criticisms, have not been the execution of a premeditated plan; the force of events has brought them about, and yet they are not to be regretted. How, in fact, should we develop our commerce if, on the one hand, we renounced all influence in America; and if, on the other, in the presence of the vast territories occupied by the Spaniards and the Dutch, France alone remained without possessions in the seas of Asia. We have conquered in Cochinchina, which, without tying us down to the difficulties of local government, will permit us to develop the immense resources of those countries and to civilise them by commerce.

In Mexico, after an unexpected resistance, which the courage of our soldiers and sailors has overcome, we have seen the population receive us as liberators. Our efforts will not have been in vain, and we shall be largely recompensed for our sacrifices when the destinies of that country, which will owe to us its regeneration, shall have been placed in the hands of a Prince whose intelligence and qualifications render him worthy of so noble a mission. Have, then, faith in our enterprises beyond the sea. Commenced to vindicate our honour, they will terminate by the triumph of our interests; and if prejudiced minds cannot discern how much fertility is contained in the seeds planted for the future, do not let us allow them to defame the glory acquired, so to speak, at the two extremities of the world—at Peking and at Mexico.

The Polish question demands more explanation. When the insurrection in Poland broke out the Governments of Russia and France were on the best terms. Since the peace the great European questions have found them in agreement, and I do not hesitate to declare that during the Italian War, as in the annexation of Nice and Savoy, the Emperor has given me the most sincere and most cordial support. This good understanding demanded caution, and it has been necessary for me to believe the Polish cause very popular in France, so as not to hesitate to compromise one of the first alliances of the Continent, and to raise my voice in favour of a nation rebellious in the eyes of Russia, but in ours the heirs of a right inscribed in history and in treaties. Nevertheless, this question touches upon the most important European interests. It could not be treated singly by France. An offence to our honour or a menace to our frontiers only impose upon us the duty of acting without previous concert. It became thus necessary, as at the epoch of the events in the East and in Syria, to come to an understanding with the Powers which had to pronounce upon reasons and rights like our own. The Polish insurrection, to which its duration impressed a national character, awakened sympathies everywhere; and the object of diplomacy was to draw to this cause as many adhesions as possible, in order to bring the weight of the opinion of Europe to bear upon Russia. This almost unanimous concurrence of desires appeared to us the most proper means to persuade the Cabinet of St. Petersburg.

Unhappily, our disinterested counsels have been interpreted as an intimidation, and the course of England, Austria, and France, in place of putting a stop to the conflict, has only embittered it. On both sides excesses are committed, which in the name of humanity are equally to be deplored. What remains to be done? Are we reduced to the only alternative of war or silence? No. Without resorting to arms, and without being silenced, one means remains to us. This is to submit the Polish cause to a European tribunal. Russia has already declared that a conference, in which all the other questions which agitate Europe would be discussed, would in nothing wound her dignity. Let us take note of this declaration. May it serve to extinguish, once for all, the ferment of disorders ready to burst out on all sides; and from the disquiet of Europe, everywhere agitated by the elements of dissolution, may there spring a new era of order and peace! Is not the moment come to reconstruct upon a new basis the edifice undermined by time and destroyed piecemeal by revolutions? Is it not urgent to reorganise by new conventions what is irrevocably accomplished, and to carry out by common agreement what the peace of the world demands? The treaties of 1815 have ceased to exist. The force of events has overturned them, or tends to overturn them, almost everywhere. They have been broken in Greece, in Belgium, in France, in Italy, as upon the Danube. Germany agitates to change them; England has generously modified them by the cession of the Ionian Islands; and Russia tramples them underfoot at Warsaw. In the midst of this successive alteration of the fundamental European pact ardent passions are excited, and at the south, as at the north, powerful interests demand a solution. What, then, can be more legitimate and more sensible than to assemble the Powers of Europe in a congress in which self-interests and resistance would disappear before a supreme arbitration? What more conformable to the ideas of the epoch, to the wishes of the greatest number, than to address the conscience, the reason of statesmen of all countries, and say to them:—"The prejudices, the rancour which divide us, have they not already lasted too long? Shall the jealous rivalries of the great Powers hinder for ever the progress of civilisation? Shall we always cherish mutual distrust by exaggerated armaments? Shall our most precious resources be indefinitely exhausted in a vain display of our forces? Shall we eternally maintain a state which is neither peace with its security nor war with its chances of success? Let us no longer give a factitious importance to the subversive spirit of extreme parties in opposing by narrow calculations the legitimate aspirations of peoples. Let us have the courage to substitute for a diseased and precarious condition a stable and regular situation, although it should cost us sacrifices. Let us meet together without a preconceived system

without exclusive ambition, animated by the sole thought of establishing an order of things founded henceforth on the well-understood interest of Sovereigns and peoples? This appeal, I believe, will be understood by all; a refusal would lead to the supposition of the existence of secret projects which shun the light of day. But, though the proposition should not be unanimously agreed to, it would have the immense advantage of having indicated to Europe where lies danger, where lies safety. Two paths are open. The one conducts to progress, by conciliation and peace; the other, sooner or later, leads fatally to war, by the obstinate maintenance of a past which is rolling away.

You know now, Gentlemen, the language which I propose to hold to Europe. Approved by you, with the sanction of public assent, it cannot fail to be listened to, since I speak in the name of France.

ITALY.

Great preparations are being made in Naples for the coming of the King and the inauguration of the Foggia Railway. A great naval review, to take place in the Bay of Naples on the 10th, will be one of the principal features of the celebration.

PRUSSIA.

The Chambers have been summoned to meet on the 9th inst. The result of the final elections of 345 members is now known, and gives the following numerical strength to the different political parties:—Liberals, 260; Conservatives, 24; Clericals, 33; Polish members, 26; uncertain, 2. The result of seven elections is not yet known. Several of the clerical members will act with the Conservatives, and in this way the Government party is expected to number about 43 individuals. Most of the Polish deputies are expected to join the Liberals.

HESSE-CASSEL.

Saturday last was the close of the Session of the Cassel Diet, and the customary message of the Elector sanctioning the measures voted was to have been read. But the Diet waited five hours for the message in vain. It then appeared that the Elector did not like the draught message prepared by his Ministers, but, having gone to the Theatre, declined to be bored by making any alteration just then. The Ministers at last sent in their resignations to the theatre, about which the Elector did not give himself the slightest concern. At ten o'clock, however, the Elector graciously looked over the message, and made a few slight alterations. The Session was then formally closed.

THE IONIAN ISLANDS.

The Ionian Parliament objects to the appropriation of £10,000 for the support of the Crown, and to the demolition of the fortifications of Corfu. The majority of the members have also protested against any violation of Parliamentary privileges, and declared any act illegal during the Parliamentary recess which may be prejudicial to the interests and rights of the Ionian Islands.

DENMARK AND GERMANY.

In the sitting of the German Federal Diet, on the 29th ult., the reply of Denmark to the resolution of the Diet to send an army of execution to Holstein was read. The reply is conciliatory in form, but in the essential points it maintains the views hitherto held by the Danish Government. It enters into lengthy explanations, and declares that the ordinance of the 30th of March last is merely to be considered as a temporary measure. The Danish communication is referred to the United Committee. A third note of Earl Russell concerning the Schleswig and Holstein question has been communicated to the Federal Diet. His Lordship in this note endeavours to form a basis upon which a mediation in the conflict between Denmark and Germany could be established in accordance with international law.

MEXICO.

Intelligence from Mexico to Sept. 27 states that the condition of affairs was favourable, that numerous adhesions to the French intervention were being given in, and that the organisation of the rural militia was being developed.

Great disorders existed among the adherents of Juarez, the majority of the Governors disavowing his authority.

Marshal Forey has addressed a letter to the Emperor describing the present state of affairs and making some observations upon the stipulation of the Archduke Maximilian that he will only definitively accept the crown upon the adhesion of the majority of the Mexican States. This adhesion, Marshal Forey says, may, perhaps, be considered already accomplished, the populations of all places from which the adherents of Juarez are absent having spontaneously recognised the French intervention.

ST. DOMINGO.

Accounts from San Domingo received in Paris assert that the insurgents have actually proclaimed a Republic, and already requested the recognition of England, France, and their neighbour Hayti. This latter Government is represented as having observed the strictest neutrality throughout the course of events.

THE POLISH INSURRECTION.

If the news which we receive from Cracow be reliable, the Polish insurrection is again assuming formidable dimensions. The mountains of Holy Cross, in the palatinate of Cracow, where some of the most brilliant exploits of last spring were performed, are again the scene of important movements. Three Polish leaders are reported to have effected a junction there. In Lublin the French volunteer leader Rochebrun is stated to have appeared again, and to have had a successful engagement with the Russians. Several other engagements are reported to have lately taken place, in most of which the Poles were successful.

The following are the regulations as to wearing mourning issued by the chief of the Russian police:—

a. Mourning and, in general, every revolutionary sign in dress is forbidden.
b. Women, without respect to station, occupation, or age, who, after the 10th of November, appear in mourning, will be arrested and taken before the Commissary of Police, and will not be liberated until they have paid a fine according to the following scale:—
1. Women in mourning on foot will be fined 10 roubles, and kept in the police prison until they pay.

2. Women in their own carriages, or in carriages not hired, if they are dressed in mourning, will be taken to the barracks of Mirow, where the carriages and horses will be kept until each person offending has paid 100 roubles.

3. Women in mourning in hired carriages will be fined fifteen roubles each. Carriages, hackney coaches, and omnibuses in which women are arrested will be taken to the barracks of Mirow. The proprietors of these vehicles will pay ten roubles for each woman in the carriage; the carriages and horses will be detained until payment of the fine. The conductors and coachmen will be punished by the police.

4. Officials whose wives and children may be arrested wearing mourning, besides being fined in accordance with the above regulations, will lose one month's salary; officials who have retired, as well as widows and orphans of officials, will lose one month's pension.

On application women who have lost their husbands, children, or brothers will receive permission to wear mourning. The existing regulations as to wearing mourning are being enforced with such rigour that the Polish town captain has issued a proclamation advising ladies to give up wearing mourning in order to avoid the brutalities of the Russian soldiery. An attempt has been made in Warsaw to kill the chief of the gendarmes. The assailant has been arrested. Forty-one ladies were arrested in Warsaw on the 2nd inst. Two convoys, with 550 prisoners, have left the citadel for Siberia. On the 23rd ult. a razzia was made upon the young men of the Polish capital. Several hundred were seized, searched, and stripped to the skin. The same operation was repeated at night, 130 young men being arrested and carried off to the citadel.

A fresh note from Earl Russell has been delivered to the Russian authorities. It is described as very pacific, simply acknowledging the last letter of Prince Gortschakoff, recognising the Imperial promises on behalf of the Poles, and concluding by stating that the Emperor holds Poland as King, subject to the conditions prescribed by the Treaty of Vienna.

THERE WILL BE AN ANNULAR ECLIPSE OF THE SUN on Wednesday, the 11th inst., invisible at Greenwich. On Wednesday, the 25th inst., there will be a partial eclipse of the moon, partly visible at Greenwich. It will begin at 2.50 a.m.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

THE news from the armies on the Potomac is still vague and indefinite. On the 22nd ult. it was reported that General Lee had recrossed the Rappahannock with the bulk of his army, after destroying a large portion of the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, and that only General Stuart's cavalry were on the north side of the stream. On the 24th, however, Lee had again advanced, and had driven back Federal General Gregg's cavalry, with heavy loss, to a place called Beaton, where the fight was again renewed, and the Federals retreated to Liberty. At the last accounts Lee occupied a line with his left resting near Beverley Ford, crossing the railroad near Beaton Station, and extending towards Stafford Courthouse.

A letter from Alexandria, Virginia, asserts that the recent retreat of General Meade from the Rapidan and subsequent cavalry skirmishing involved a heavy loss to the Federals in men, materials of all kinds, and especially in horses. Not less than 3000 dismounted cavalymen straggled into the town during one day, all of whom agreed in the statement that the army of the Potomac had never sustained a worse disaster, and that no fewer than 7000 men of that branch of the service had been rendered useless. In one engagement alone he lost 400 killed and 1800 wounded, missing, and dismounted.

General Rosecranz has been relieved of the command of the army of the Cumberland. General Grant has been put into the supreme command of the armies of the Cumberland, the Tennessee, and the Ohio; and General Thomas, who fought his division so gallantly at Chancellorsville, is entrusted with the direct command of the army in Chattanooga. Two divisions of the Confederates were reported to have been removed from the front, and to be operating on the left of the Federal force. President Davis had visited General Bragg's headquarters, in order, as was believed, to inquire into the causes of certain differences which had occurred between Bragg and his lieutenants.

Despatches from Knoxville report that the Confederates attacked the Federals at Wafford, near Philadelphia, Tennessee, on the 21st, and captured a battery of cannon and a portion of their wagon-train, and killed, wounded, and captured upwards of 100 of them. The Confederates were afterwards beaten off, and retreated beyond Philadelphia.

No further movement had taken place at Charleston. Letters from Morris Island of the 18th ult. state that for several days previously there had been but little firing upon either side, and that the Confederates were evidently reserving their ammunition for the ironclads, whenever Admiral Dahlgren should attempt to enter the harbour; they add that the Admiral had expressed his determination to go up to Charleston on the next trial, or else assure himself that the ironclads were unequal to the task. It was reported from Washington, under date of the 22nd, that Admiral Dahlgren had been superseded in the command of the fleet of Charleston by Captain Thomas Turner, of the Ironsides.

The 300,000 volunteers called out by President Lincoln are to serve for three years, or to the end of the war; and if the number is not completed by January it will be made up by a draft.

THE LATE NAVAL OPERATIONS IN JAPAN.

THE QUARREL WITH THE FRENCH AND AMERICANS.

THE difficulties which have always attended any attempt to open amicable relations with Japan have scarcely diminished in any practical sense, notwithstanding the professions of amity on the part of the Government. The hereditary Princes, or daimios, who represent the old Conservative party, are so powerful that their influence is always sufficient to neutralise previous concessions; and, when all other means fail, they take upon themselves the responsibilities of war, and do not scruple to attack Europeans whenever their vessels come within their own territories, where they have protected themselves with batteries and maintain considerable armed forces. It was an outrage of this kind which gave rise to the first of the recent operations against one of the principal places where these forts have been erected—a town called Simonosaki, in the territory of Prince Nagato, situated in a strait which joins the inland sea of Japan with the Chinese sea. This Prince Nagato has been one of the fiercest opponents of the Europeans, and, indeed, has instituted a regular crusade against foreigners, to further which he has placed fortifications in this strait, which has all along been frequented both by merchant-vessels and ships of war, in consequence of the convenience of the journey by water to the interior. The first vessel on which Prince Nagato made an attack was an American merchant-steamship, and reprisals were quickly made by Commander McDougall, of the Federal steamer Wyoming, who at once proceeded to attack the land batteries and three ships of war at Simosak. Of these three vessels one was sunk by the fire of the Wyoming, a second was entirely disabled, and the third escaped. The Wyoming herself was severely injured in the contest, having been struck eleven times, with four men killed and seven wounded.

As similar outrages had been committed on both French and British ships, and the batteries still continued to threaten passing vessels, the French Admiral, Jaures, at once sailed for the purpose of punishing the offenders.

On the 8th of July the little despatch-vessel, the Kien-Chan, entered the strait, and was immediately assailed by a continuous fire, proceeding from two war-vessels and seven batteries belonging to Nagato, which occupy the shore of Simonosaki. The ship escaped, however, without any further damage than a few shots in the hull, while replying to the fire of its antagonists as well as it could with its two guns. Two days afterwards it was the turn of the Dutch corvette to be assailed, in the midst of the pass, where it was almost riddled with shot. The moment the news of the attack on the Kien-Chan reached Admiral Jaures he determined to avenge the affront, and, leaving at Yokohama the two corvettes Menge and Dupleix, he set out on the morning of the 16th for Simonosaki, with the Semiramis and the Tancred. On the evening of the 19th, after a difficult passage, the ships entered the strait, the steep sides of which are covered with woods. The next morning the vessels took up a position on the north side of the successive batteries fronting the town. The principal of these was in just such a position as brought it completely under the fire of the French guns, and the enemy, warned of their approach by a shot, were actively engaged both in the batteries and on the hills, and seemed to exhibit an unusual degree of excitement. The fire, which was immediately opened from the powerful rifle artillery of the French vessels of war, carried destruction to the battery, which was quickly deserted, and the shots afterwards took terrible effect on the town, and especially against a large, white, terraced house which stood on a hill behind the forts. So well-directed, indeed, was the fire, that the troops, who soon began to march down to the shore in columns, were compelled to take refuge in the woods. One shot thrown beyond an eminence, at about three miles distance, created considerable panic amongst the enemy, who were thus reminded that their town could be burnt in spite of their ships and batteries. At about nine o'clock in the morning the batteries were silent, and the Tancred was ordered to advance in order to reconnoitre the pass. At this moment the Japanese gunners seized the opportunity to reopen their fire; but it was quickly silenced again, and it was determined that a column of men should land to take possession of the principal battery and use it in destroying the rest. After the midday rations had been served, a company of 250 men, composed of the Marines of the Semiramis and a company of Chasseurs, under the command of Captains Miel and Cote, disembarked at the foot of a hill which extended behind the battery. Here they formed in three columns—the Chasseurs climbing the wooded hills to protect the right, and the Marines marching upon the battery in two divisions. The disembarkment was made without resistance; but in a few minutes after the columns had entered the wood they were seen to engage in a fierce fusillade, which was full of uncertainty to the spectators, since it was impossible to guess to what force they were opposed. Soon afterwards, however, the Marines were seen ascending the crown of the hill and fighting their way until they had obtained possession of the battery. Meanwhile a detachment, conducted by the Lieutenant of the ship Layrie, crossed the rice valleys which flank

the battery, and bore towards the town and up to the large house with the white terrace on the height. The points which were successively occupied were soon hidden in smoke, and a rattling fusillade still continued in the woods between the Chasseurs and the Japanese reserve, which could not withstand the elan of the French troops. During the fight the Tancred, which was drawn up in front of the main battery, could see the columns of Japanese troops hastening to the relief of their comrades, and looking like a moving ribbon of many colours as they marched from Simonosaki down the winding road towards the sea—a ribbon which was soon torn and frayed by the projectiles from the ship. At two o'clock, amidst a terrible explosion at the white house, which was discovered to be nothing less than a reservoir of gunpowder, the troops, having gained the battery and rendered it completely harmless, re-embarked, and were received on board the vessels by their comrades. The battery was full of the dead and wounded of the enemy, and it was discovered that the cannon were very beautifully constructed, and were composed entirely of bronze.

THE MURDER OF MR. RICHARDSON.

The "daimios" claim, it is said, the privilege of having even a public road to themselves when they choose to travel upon it. On Sept. 14 last year Mr. Richardson, an Englishman who happened to be in Japan, was riding on one of the high roads in company with two or three friends when they encountered a daimio and his retinue. The retainers of the Prince fell upon the party immediately, and Mr. Richardson was killed. It was for this murder that Prince Satsuma was called to account in the recent operations of our fleet, and the case lies in an unusually small compass. The Japanese Government not only acknowledged the justice of our demands when redress was claimed, but proceeded to satisfy them as far as it could. The apology which we required was given, and the fine which we asked was paid. But when we came to deal with the offending daimio our claims were eluded. The Prince's Ministers argued that, though the Supreme Government of the Empire might have given us by treaty certain rights of travelling on the high roads, these rights ought to have been subordinated to the inalienable privileges of the nobles of the land, and that, though the casualty in question might be deplorable in itself, it was but a natural incident of the mistake made by the English party in confronting a daimio on progress. This view of the case has actually found acceptance among the English in China, for we read in one of their journals a serious lamentation over the folly or perverseness by which so fatal a risk was incurred. It is not alleged that Mr. Richardson and his friends were doing anything but what they had a right to do by treaty, or that they conducted themselves in any way provokingly or offensively, except by meeting a nobleman on the road. The only prerogative which they infringed was the daimio's prerogative of monopolising a highway to the exclusion of all intruders. When a daimio rides abroad other people should stay at home. That is the claim advanced on behalf of the daimios. Mr. Richardson, it is said, was unfortunate in paying the penalty with his life, but his own ignorance or hardihood led him into the danger.

THE ATTACK ON KAGOSIMA.

On the afternoon of the 14th of August, there was a general shifting of the disposition of the fleet, the greater part of which were placed under the island, out of range of guns on the fort in the middle of the channel, say 1700 yards on each side. The Euryalus, although shifting, still remained within range, as did also the Perseus. On the morning of the 15th, the Pearl, Coquette, Argus, Havoc, and Racehorse proceeded up the bay and took as hostages three steamers there at anchor—said to be the England, purchased by Satsuma in 1861, for 120,000 dollars, the steamer George Grey (for 40,000 dollars), and the Contest, which cost him 85,000 dollars in May last. The locality of the anchorage of these vessels was snugly behind Point Wilmot.

The weather, which had been stormy during the whole morning, now became worse; it was raining in torrents, and the wind blowing a hurricane round the bay. At ten o'clock the above-named vessels, English and Japanese, had returned, and at twelve the men were piped down to dinner, and nothing immediate expected, when suddenly the battery on the main, covering the Euryalus, and that on the island covering the Perseus, opened fire. The three hostage steamers were forthwith fired (their crews having been previously sent ashore, and one of the head officers on board, recognised as having belonged to the staff of the lae Ambassadors to Europe, and another officer at their own request having been taken on board the flag-ship, where they now remain). All the ships weighed and formed line of battle. The Perseus then engaged the battery that had been firing at her in beautiful style, as we are informed, knocking her antagonist's guns over, one after another, and when she had completed that, as though she had been only getting her hand in, she passed over to the other side and engaged the battery on the opposite shore. All the batteries (ten) were then engaged by the ships at point-blank range, at from 400 to 800 yards respectively (the Euryalus being within 200 yards), commencing with the northernmost and passing down the entire line. About dusk the town was fired in several parts by our shells and three of the forts silenced. All the ships then returned to their anchorage, save the Racehorse, which had got ashore within 200 yards of the nearest battery, of which accident she availed herself in true British style to pour her metal into until it was effectually silenced. The Argus was sent to bring her off, which she accomplished after about an hour's delay, during the whole of which time she was under fire from one of the other batteries.

This was Saturday, the 15th, during the whole of which day it had been raining and blowing fiercely. The loss on this day to us was eleven killed and thirty-nine wounded. Amongst the former there will be general regret that we have to name Captain Josling, of the flag-ship, an officer esteemed and respected by all who knew him; in ordinary times mild and gentle, but when the lion was aroused within him he was bold and daring—a true type of a British officer. Commander Edward Wilmott (late of the Agamemnon), of whose character all speak in the like glowing terms, met a glorious death by the same shot; both were standing on the bridge of the flag-ship, about the middle of the engagement (3.30), when a shot passed through the boat and struck them both instantaneously into eternity; the Admiral escaped death by the same shot in a wonderful manner; both he and the Master were standing on the narrow bridge when the Captain fell.

About nine o'clock the whole of one side of the town was blazing. The following day (Sunday), the weather cleared up, the dead (two Europeans and nine seamen) were consigned to their sailors' grave in Euryalus Bay at eleven o'clock, and the fleet stood out, passing close to the batteries on the island, which it engaged the whole way. The destruction accomplished by the fleet appears to have been enormous. There can be no doubt that the whole city is now one mass of ruins, including the palace, the factories, and the arsenal and warehouses; the batteries have also been seriously damaged; not one of them which had been engaged during the first day fired a shot on the second day, as the fleet passed out. The three destroyed ships alone have cost Satsuma 245,000 dollars, upwards of half of which he has paid very recently. Several large junks also were destroyed. The Japanese are said to have stood well to their guns, so long as the play was at long range, but seemed somewhat taken aback when our ships came to close quarters.

THE BAKEHOUSES OF THE METROPOLIS.—The new Act for the regulation of bakehouses has come into force, and Dr. Letheby, the medical officer of the City, has just made a report to the Commissioners of Sewers of the results of an inspection which he has made of the bakehouses in the City. He finds that within the City limits there are 140 bakehouses, in which 264 boys and men, and one woman, are employed. Of the bakehouses, 101 are underground, the others being on a level with the street; 57 were in a filthy condition, these being mainly in the eastern and northern districts. In only one case was the bakehouse used as a sleeping place. The young people under the age of eighteen employed were not in any case allowed to work between the hours of nine at night and five in the morning. Steps were ordered to be taken to enforce compliance with the regulations of the Act of Parliament where those regulations are infringed.

THE BREMEN BRIG ARION, bound from Liverpool for St. Thomas, ran on shore at Carnarvon on Tuesday, and became a total wreck. All on board perished.

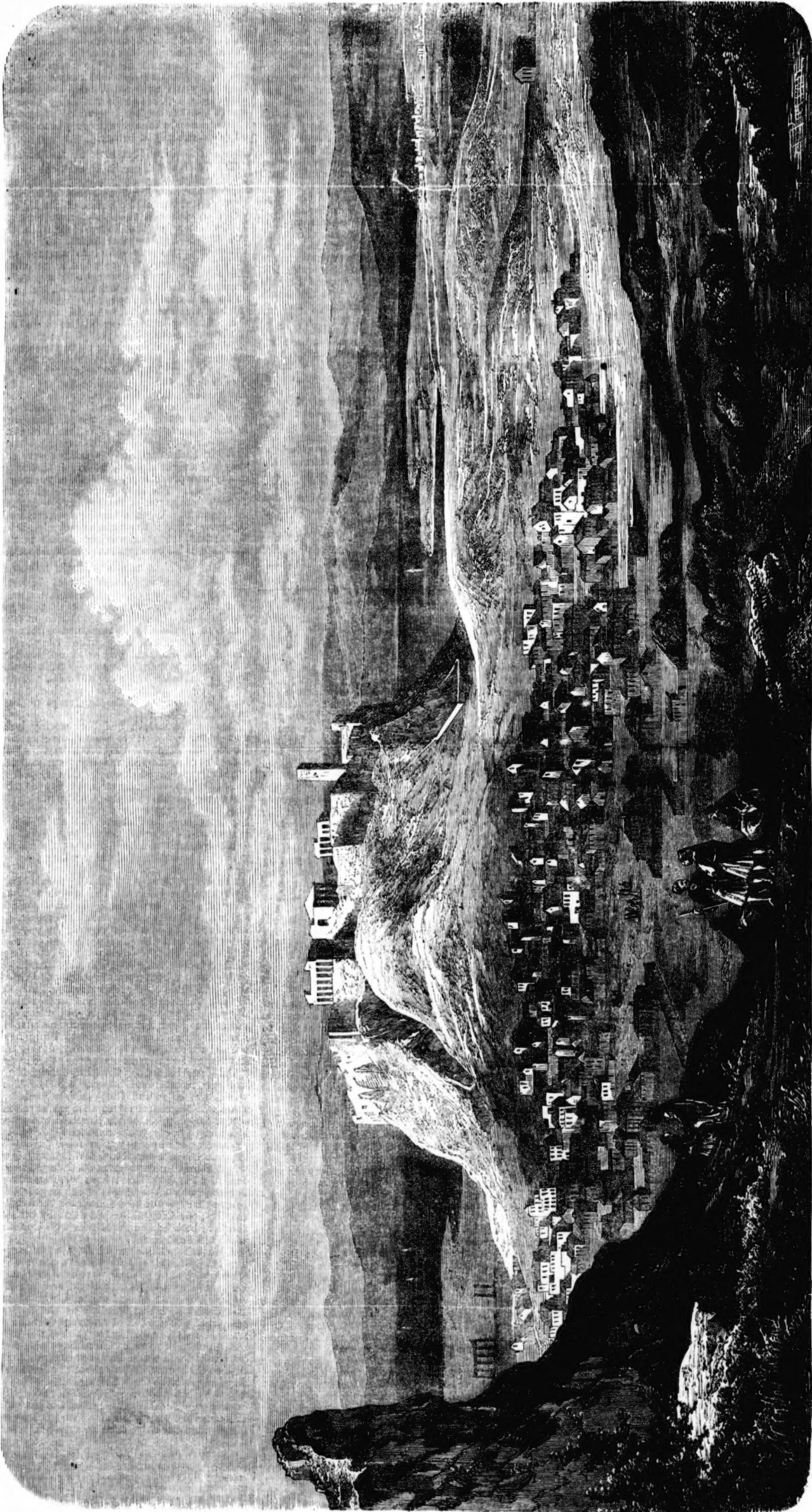
ATHENS.

The new King of the Hellenes entered the capital of his kingdom on the 30th of October; and his arrival at Athens is an occasion which may well inaugurate another era in the history of the Greeks. It may be doubtful, indeed, whether that ancient people will ever regain a title of their old influence or their old greatness, but they have the opportunity of forming a real and consolidated State by eschewing those influences which were the cause of their decline and have kept up a long course of antagonism to the real progress of the people. It would be difficult to estimate what must be the sentiments of a young and untired Prince on being called to rule over a

great historical people traditionally difficult to govern, and to take up his residence in a city presenting at one glance so strange a combination of the heroic and the commonplace, the ruinous antique and the modern unfinished. The site of Athens, which is surrounded on three sides by hills, is open towards the sea—the way by which the young King approached it. Here it lies open towards the magnificent gulf and the islands which seem to float upon its surface. The plain on which the city itself is built is so broken by limestone ridges and their intervening valleys that the place is almost an irregular succession of terraces, the highest of which rises precipitously to form the Acropolis.

The wisest approach to modern Athens, by way of Eleusis, is over a well-made road; that on the south-west by the harbour of Piræus, along a tract which has been redeemed from a mere swamp to a garden of vineyards, olive groves, and fig plantations. Ever since the Turkish wall has been pulled down—that is to say, since 1834, when Athens became the seat of government—new buildings have gone on extending over the city until they jostle the grand old temples and ruined porticoes in the most incongruous manner possible. In truth, Athens was previously almost a heap of ruins, the only habitable part exhibiting the very worst specimen of Turkish streets and winding alleys, so that new buildings were required. Whether

it was necessary to convert them with the old structures is another question; the result has been to make Athens one of the most grotesque cities in the world. The Acropolis is, of course, the centre of the antique, from the Propylæa, with its front of six marble Doric columns and its Temple of Wingless Victory, to the Parthenon, the Temple of Minerva Polias and the Cecropium. Immediately to the north-west of the Acropolis, and separated from it by a narrow valley, is the Areopagus, or Mars Hill, the scene of St. Paul's famous address, and to the south-west of this again is a small valley, which was the old "Agora," or forum, above which stands the Pryx, with its



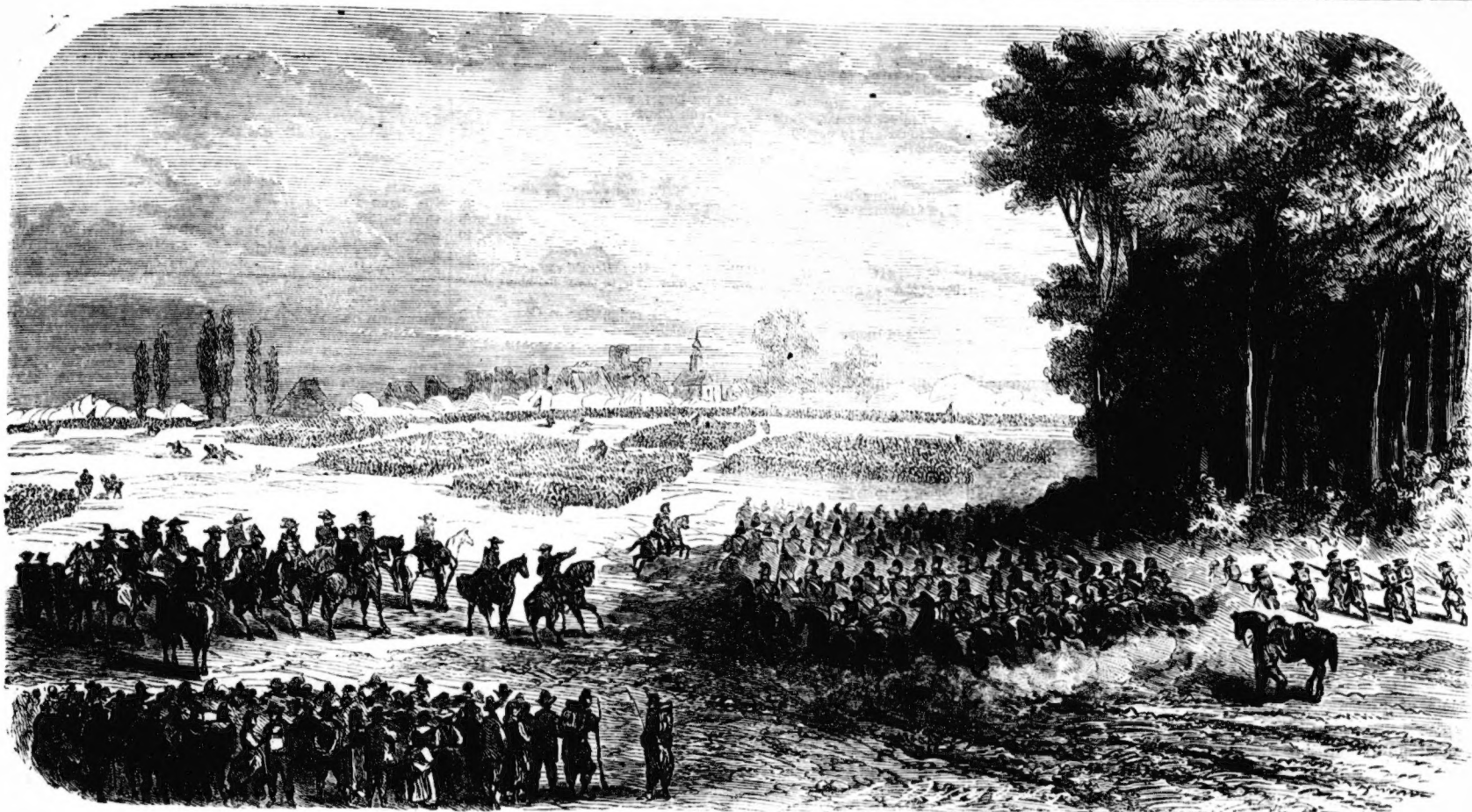
VIEW OF ATHENS.

ruce bench of stone, on which Demosthenes stood to appeal to the crowds below. To the south of the Pryx, and at nearly the same height as the Acropolis, stands the Museum Hill, so called because it was said to be the resort of Musæus, who not only sung but was ultimately buried there. One out of four curious dungeons cut out of the rock at its base is the prison in which Socrates drank the poison which caused his death. The other principal public buildings reached from the Acropolis are the Temple of Theseus, built B.C. 465—which was afterwards used as a Christian church, is still the most perfect of all the ancient buildings, and is used as the Museum of Athens—and the Temple of Jupiter Olympus, the largest in

the city, begun by Pisistratus, B.C. 530, but only completed by Hadrian, A.D. 145. All that now remains of it is sixteen columns, on an artificial platform, supported by a wall. The cathedral of Athens belongs to an intervening period of time, and is a fine specimen of the Byzantine style, built of massive blocks of white marble. A frieze running along the front is carved with a curious Greek zodiac, but the original dome is concealed by a modern steeple, and the interior is covered with paintings. The chief part of modern Athens has been built on the north, where there exists a quarter of tolerable houses; but perhaps the best and most commodious dwellings are those of the

irregular district to the west, where the Royal palace (of which we lately gave an Engraving) is situated. This palace is a big, quadrangular building, with walls of broken limestone faced with cement, the front portico, the colonnade, the window-frames, and the cornices being formed of Pentelic marble, and the interior being highly decorated in the manner of Munich. The Panepistimion, or University of Athens, is, as far as it goes, the finest of the modern buildings, and the schools which it contains may be made the most hopeful means for the future welfare of Greece. In addition to the University, there are numerous public and private educational establishments, such as the Gymnasium, which prepares for the University;

the Polytechnic School, for drawing, geometry, &c.; the Normal School; and the Risiari or Ecclesiastical School, named after its founder. Athens can scarcely be said to have any manufactures; but its trade has for some time been increasing, as, indeed, it should, since it possesses a fine harbour for all commercial purposes. This harbour (now called the "Porto Leone," from the colossal marble lions which once stood upon it) is, of course, well known to our readers by its ancient name of the Piræus. It is about four miles south-west of the city, and was brought within its inclosure by means of what was called the "Long Walls." It is both deep and capacious; and, as the former supremacy of Greece had much to do with



MANŒUVRES OF THE SWISS ARMY.—CAPTURE OF THE PLATEAU OF AESCHI.

this naval advantage, so it is not too much to say that the attention lately bestowed upon both the harbour and the magnificent quay will be the best guarantee for her future prosperity.

THE SWISS ARMY.

THE recent display of the Swiss army at the review in the country which lies between Soleure, Otten, Zofingne, and Berthoud, has given a good opportunity for observing the progress that the new troops have made in their military knowledge and discipline, and the result has been most satisfactory to all who profess to be judges of field operations.

The troops assembled consisted of one division of the army, comprising fourteen battalions of infantry, seven companies of carabineers, three batteries of artillery, six companies of dragoons, two companies of guides, and one company of sappers, making altogether an effective force of 10,000 men, under the command of the Federal Colonel Edouard de Salis. The manoeuvres of the troops, who had assembled for fifteen days, were founded on the supposition of an enemy coming either from France or Germany; and, after crossing the Aar at Olten, prepared to march upon Herzogenbuchsee.

This enemy was represented by two brigades, with artillery and cavalry, and the Swiss army found it necessary to oppose them above

the Aar. These movements occupied four days, and afterwards the entire division arrived at the cantonments, which were situated for three leagues round the General's quarters. The division was reunited at daybreak in the plain which extends to the north-west of Herzogenbuchsee, and were passed under inspection by M. Staempli, chief of the federal military department. The federal council, surrounded by a numerous staff of officers and many visitors both from England and Austria, received the officers actively engaged in the review, who were presented by Colonel de Salis. As the troops defiled it was easy to see, despite the really admirable uniformity which they presented, that the Swiss federal army was composed of very distinct national elements, and as each corps approached it became evident that valley and mountain agriculture and handicraft had each its representatives, who differed essentially from the rest. Even the manner of marching was characteristic of the national differences—the German battalions generally moving slowly to solemn or plaintive music. In one case the air of Lisette, played in quick time by the band of a Vaud battalion; in another a patriotic hymn, and now and then a waltz.

The same differences were, of course, observable in the uniforms. Many of the grenadiers were very fine fellows; but some of the regiments of infantry from the high valleys presented a rather free and easy appearance to a strict observer, inasmuch as they wore their capotes loosely, and evidently objected to the

rigid buckling of their belts, while their *kepis* were tilted at such particular angles as suited their heads best. These brave fellows were probably none the worse soldiers for their love of freedom in these respects; but they suffered a little in appearance by the want of that uniformity which seems necessarily to belong to military display. The Swiss cavalry are remarkably picturesque, and the horses, which are the property of the men, are fine, strong-boned animals; while the riders, who are equally robust in appearance, forcibly remind one of the old German fighting-men. It is true that they are not very elegant horsemen; but there is something about the Swiss dragoon which is remarkably soldierly and effective.

When the army had defiled past, the whole division proceeded to attack the supposed enemy who occupied the heights of the plateau of Aeschi. After a cannonade and a fusillade of several hours the battalions mounted to the assault, the cavalry charging on the flank of the hill, in the midst of an immense concourse of people who had assembled to witness the operations. In an hour the position was taken, and the army occupied the heights. As the last shots were fired, the men again entered their cantonments, and the great day terminated in a general call to dinner.

The review was of course like other reviews, only an opportunity for displaying the progress of the force in military evolutions; but it satisfactorily answered this purpose by proving that the Swiss national army has during the last two or three years maintained its position, and will bear honourable comparison with other permanent forces.



SWISS DRAGOONS

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1863.

THE BURNING OF KAGOSIMA.

THERE are certain euphuisms which the student of history passes over glibly enough, but which the scholar who may happen to be to some extent acquainted with the nature of warfare may reasonably hate to meet with in his reading. Thus, "after the victory the town was for two days abandoned to the license of the soldiery;" "the garrison, being reduced to the last extremity, was compelled to capitulate;" "the residue of the prisoners, after severe forced marches, during which many died from privation, were transported to Barbadoes and sold as slaves" (for which last incident see the records of Cromwell's victory at Dunbar); all these things are trilled off the tongue by the schoolboy in his daily reading-lesson to his schoolmaster, who knows no more and cares probably even less about the matter than the child.

But this is not the manner in which the chronicles of war are or ought to be passed over by any who would wish to comprehend them. For "privation" in such phrases read utter destitution and starvation, the abandonment of every cherished article of property for the vilest scrap of what the most desperate appetite can accept for food; for "soldierly license" understand unlimited murder, torture, robbery, and destruction by unreasoning armed and embodied ruffianism; for "severe forced marches of prisoners" (in the case which we have specially mentioned) picture the shattered remnants of a brave Highland army, driven almost beyond the endurance of their hardy constitutions, feeding greedily upon raw cabbage and unwholesome weeds by the roadside, taking their way from the fresh air of their native mountains to the transport-vessel in which the unmentionable horrors of the middle passage were to be followed by life-long tropical bondage, under taskmasters to whose rule that of an ordinary southern planter over his negroes would be comparative liberty.

"Signal chastisement" is, in like manner, a favourite phrase among officers of our own Navy in modern days. Some weak fifteenth-rate Power insults the British flag or resents the intrusion or insolence of some blundering British subject, and at once "signal chastisement" is inflicted upon a tribe of unoffending natives, a seaport town, or an inland trading city. We have invaded Persia for a reason which yet remains, even to the journalist, an undiscovered mystery. Brazil has been "signally chastised" for being, as has since been discovered, in the right in a quarrel with us; we have destroyed the museum at Kertch, only because we dared not provoke an outcry from the whole civilized world by burning Odessa, where, hundreds of miles away, the laws of war had been violated; we have aided in pillaging the Chinese Emperor's Palace of Peking, as a preliminary to taking his usurping dynasty under our protection, and now we have shelled and reduced to ashes an inoffensive town of Japan upon the sole justification that a powerful Prince of the vicinity declined to submit to a sentence, imposed by ourselves, without opportunity of defence or appeal, for an act committed within his own dominions, in conformity with the immemorial usage of his country.

The revenge—for it can scarcely be termed punishment (falling, as it has done, upon the innocent)—for this outrage has been not only the destruction of the fortifications, vessels of war, and the private palace of the son of the alleged offender, but the conflagration of an entire city, estimated to contain 180,000 souls—that is to say, a city as large, probably, as Brighton. This act has been committed in distant Japan, at the moment when England is endeavouring by the force of her moral influence, and in the name of civilisation, to procure reprobation of Russian atrocities in Poland, of the employment of Greek fire at Charleston, and of the so-called infamous barbarities of Butler at New Orleans. The batteries had been silenced; the vessels of Satsuma had been seized and burnt—when shell after shell was poured into the unresisting town of Kagosima, a town declared by our own Admiral, before a single shot was fired, to be at his mercy.

The poor Japanese, burnt out from their homes, from commerce, and possibly from means even of existence, have no power of making themselves heard intelligibly in Europe. But the facts speak for themselves. Not even in Eastern Asia can people accustomed to household shelter and comforts suddenly find their whole town reduced to smoking cinders without an awful amount of human misery, upon the bare imagination of which it would be appalling to dwell. Such is the lesson by which it is proposed to teach to the most exclusive people in the world the advantages of intercommunication with foreigners. Such is the exemplar of civilisation and philanthropy by which it is sought to induce the jealous natives and haughty potentates of Japan to welcome and to encourage travellers, missionaries, and traders from christianised England.

A PETITION IN FAVOUR OF THE POLES, signed by M. de Montalembert, M. St. Marc Girardin, M. Odillon Barrot, and other eminent personages, will shortly be presented to the Senate, praying that France shall declare that Russia has forfeited the rights she held by the treaties of 1815, and that France shall forthwith recognise the Poles as belligerents.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

A MARRIAGE is said to be in contemplation between his Royal Highness Prince Alfred and a Princess of the house of Oldenburg.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS LOUIS OF HESSE left England last week for Germany. They had a very rough passage across the Channel, but reached Calais in safety, and proceeded by the Northern Railway of France to their destination.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS CHRISTIAN OF DENMARK, with Prince Frederick and Princess Dagmar, left Sandringham on Tuesday. Prince Frederick proceeds to Oxford to pursue his studies, while his Royal relatives return to Denmark. They left London on Wednesday.

PROFESSOR STANLEY, it is now said, will not be the new Archbishop of Dublin, as the rev. gentleman is satisfied with his position at Oxford.

THE RIGHT HON. LORD BELHAVEN, K.T., was sworn in on Tuesday Lord Lieutenant of Lanarkshire, in the room of the late Duke of Hamilton. The illness under which Sir William Atherton, late Attorney-General, has long been suffering has now assumed so grave an aspect as seriously to alarm his friends.

THE HEALTH OF MR. DISRAELI, the *Morning Herald* says, was never better than at present, the rumours lately current as to the right hon. gentleman's illness being totally without foundation.

SIR HUGH ROSE, it is said, has tendered his resignation as Commander-in-Chief in India.

A MOVEMENT is in progress for erecting a harbour in the Downs, at the mouth of the River Stour, near Sandwich.

GORHAMURRY HOUSE, near St. Albans, the seat of the Earl of Verulam, was partially destroyed by fire on Saturday last.

THE TURKS are arming the forts of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles with heavy rifled cannon.

A WOMAN died lately in Austria who is said to have weighed 60 st. 13 lb.

A CLERGYMAN in Carlisle recently preached a sermon to children in words of one syllable!

THE SHIP DAWN OF HOPE, which sailed from Bombay on the 11th of April for Liverpool, was spoken on the 15th of May, and has not since been heard of.

AN EFFORT is being made to obtain subscriptions for a monument to Isaac Walton, to be erected in Stafford, his birthplace.

LORD STAMFORD is retiring from the turf, and his entire racing stud will shortly be offered at auction by Messrs. Tattersall.

MANCHESTER has obtained a loan from the Treasury of £220,000, of which £130,000 is to be expended in constructing additional waterworks for that city.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE of the Austrian Reichsrath have passed a resolution granting 20,000,000 florins for the relief of the distress in Hungary.

THE SPANISH STEAMER MEJICO was burned lately about forty miles south of Cape Antonio, Island of Cuba, while on a voyage from Sisal to Havana. About sixty lives were lost.

ON THE 9TH INST. the first of a new line of steam-ships will sail from Belfast for ports in the Mediterranean.

CHESTNUTS are so abundant this year in the south of France that they are selling at one penny per pound weight.

THE REV. H. W. BEECHER left Liverpool on Saturday morning for America, by the Cunard steam-ship. A great number of people assembled to see the reverend gentleman off.

M. AND MME. NADAR have arrived in Paris from Hanover, having travelled in a railway carriage arranged with beds.

THE SAVINGS BANK DEPARTMENT OF THE POST OFFICE has been removed from St. Martin's-le-Grand to new and spacious premises in St. Paul's-churchyard.

THE TURKS have published their Budget for 1863-4. According to this statement the revenue will be, in round numbers, £13,884,000, and the expenditure about £180,000 less.

THE QUANTITY OF COTTON GROWN IN ITALY THIS YEAR amounts to 73,000 bales, of 100 kilogrammes each. The greater part was produced in Sicily and the Neapolitan provinces of Lecce and Salerno.

THE ARCHDUKE MAXIMILIAN has given an order to the painter Dell'Acqua for a large picture representing the Mexican deputation offering him the crown of Mexico.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT RESIDING AT ST. AUSTELL four brothers, aged respectively eighty-eight, eighty-six, eighty-four, and seventy-six years, making a total of 334 years.

A NEW PIER for embarking and landing passengers on the south side of the Thames was opened on Monday. It communicates with Emerson-street, Southwark, and is nearly opposite St. Paul's Pier.

EIGHTY NATIONAL BANKS, with an aggregate capital of 10,340,000 dol., have recently been authorised to commence operations in the United States.

MM. DE VILLERDING AND BERNHOFF have left Stockholm for Paris to draw up the bases of a treaty of commerce with the French Government. The former gentleman is the representative of Sweden, and the latter of Norway.

AN EXTENSIVE STRIKE is now pending at the collieries of Messrs. Straker and Love, in the Auckland district, in the north of England, all efforts to accommodate matters having hitherto failed.

THE CAPTAIN OF THE STEAM-BOAT LADY OF THE LAKE, which lately ran down and drowned a fisherman in Southampton Water, has been committed for trial on a charge of manslaughter.

THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL reports an increased number of marriages and births in the last quarter, and that the death rate was considerably higher than it has been in any of the corresponding quarters that have intervened since 1854.

DURING the first nine months and a half of 1862, 7,208,282 gallons of petroleum were exported from New York. During a similar period, this year, the number of gallons exported was 22,076,767.

THE AMOUNT SUBSCRIBED IN LONDON—amounting to upwards of £54,000—for erecting a monument to the late Prince Consort, has, in accordance with the wish of her Majesty, been handed over to certain trustees appointed by her for carrying out the project.

THE NEW IRON FRIGATE BELLEPHON, now building at Chatham, is to be constructed on what is termed the double-bottom or unseinkable principle, by which a complete revolution will be effected in the mode of constructing iron vessels of war.

THE YELVERTON CAUSE, it is believed, will be ready for the House of Lords in February—the "case" for the respondent, the Hon. Mrs. Theresa Longworth, or Yelverton, being in an advanced state of preparation, and the appellant's having been lodged before the House of Lords rose.

THE IRON-CLAD SHIP PRINCE CONSORT, which had been dispatched from Plymouth to Liverpool, encountered a severe gale in the Channel, and had to run to Kingstown Harbour, having sustained considerable damage. She is now, however, reported to be "all afloat," and only waits to recover an anchor before leaving port.

THE STEAM-RAM EL TOUSSON was towed out of the Birkenhead float on Saturday afternoon and anchored near her Majesty's ship *Majestic*. She is now in the possession of the naval authorities. El Monassir will be towed out of the Messrs. Laird's dock on the 9th, the tide not answering before that date. All work on board the vessels has been stopped.

MR. CLAY, American Minister at St. Petersburg, writes to a gentleman at Washington that the Russian Government has granted him "a telegraph line charter, the line to run from the mouth of the Amoor River to America. It will unite all the continents and be the great work of the age. It will illustrate my mission to this country."

THERE is a great rush to the gold mines in the county of Beauce, about thirty-five miles from Quebec. There are about a thousand persons at the "diggings," which are said to be exceedingly rich. The gold district extends over a distance of about fifty miles, part of it running through the suburbs of Quebec.

THE LONDON AND NEW YORK PACKET-SHIP AMAZON, which left Gravesend on Saturday last with passengers and a general cargo, was totally destroyed by fire, off the North Foreland, on Tuesday night. The passengers and crew were landed at Margate on Wednesday morning, but lost everything they possessed except the clothes they had on.

THE TOLLGATES of the Whetstone Trust, extending from Highgate to Barnet, were removed on Monday last, with the exception of the impost levied on goods going into or coming from Highgate, known as the "Bishop of London's toll," which is exacted at the Gatehouse-bar in that suburb, under a lease from the Bishop of the metropolitan diocese.

THE TRAIN IN WHICH THE PRINCE OF WALES TRAVELLED TO HALIFAX on the 6th of August last, it seems, nearly subjected to the fate of the unfortunate Lynn excursion-train. A bullock that got upon the line as the Royal train was approaching was actually struck, but was fortunately pushed aside, and no damage was done.

THE BONES OF ROBESPIERRE, ST. JUST, AND LEBAS have been found by some masons who were laying the foundation of a house at the corner of the Rue de Rocher, in the Batignolles, Paris. It was there the remains of these men were deposited, the churchyard of the Madeleine being too full at the time of their execution to receive any more corpses. Public balls were held for many years at the place where the skeletons were discovered.

AN OLD MAN IN BERBICE, known as "Daddy Joe," has on his deathbed confessed to having had a part in an immense number of murders by poisoning, a crime which there is reason to suspect is but too common in the colony. Almost every piece of bush land yields the most subtle poisonous plants to those acquainted with them. He also told the place where a great quantity of valuable ornaments were to be found which had been the hire of his services in these atrocities.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

IT is impossible to pass the "tremendous scandal of the day" in silence. I will, therefore, tell your readers all I know upon the subject. But I will tell them no more. Of course, there are rumours enough afloat; but mere rumours affecting private character must find no place in your columns. All, then, that I know is this: There will shortly come before the Divorce Court a case in which a Mr. O'Kane will appear as plaintiff and Lord Palmerston will figure as co-respondent. This, I believe, is all that has been divulged to the public, and all that goes beyond this is mere rumour and not trustworthy. Something, however, is known about the solicitor for the plaintiff, and what is known it may be as well to publish. His name is Thomas Wells; his office is 47, Moorgate-street; and he is the same Thomas Wells who advertises in the morning papers that he, in conjunction with a Mr. Weston, "advances money on good security;" helps the "embarrassed" who are "struggling against the force of misfortune" to "effect compositions with their creditors;" obtains "protection in cases from £5 (whatever that may mean), payable by instalments," and that by him and his partner, Mr. Weston, "divorce cases are confidentially conducted." There can be no doubt that the advertising Mr. Thomas Wells is the solicitor for the petitioner; for he himself has divulged the fact in a letter written to the *Morning Star*, to contradict a report that "the great scandal" had been arranged. And now, in leaving this case, I would warn your readers not to prejudice it. As at present advised, and after due reflection upon the improbabilities—I had almost said, the impossibilities—which have presented themselves before me, I have come to the conclusion, provisionally, that there must be some tremendous mistake or diabolical roguery somewhere behind this case. The political opponents of the noble Lord—or rather the baser sort of them—are all on the alert, *erectis auribus*, snuffing the wind, and already, in anticipation, tasting the sweets of office; for, of course, as the *Standard* puts it, "unless the charge be repelled—as we anxiously trust will be the result—there can be no question as to the course which her Majesty will feel it necessary to adopt. In that event, equally as a matter of course, political changes must be expected." Exactly so! With the fall of Atlas the whole Whig world will rush down into irretrievable ruin, and the Conservative chiefs will be sent for, and the good time which has been so long coming will come at last. Let not, however, the hopeful waiters on providence, whose supreme ambition is to carry a box into the House of Commons at a cost of £1200 to the country, count their chickens before they're hatched. For my part, I would not give them the amount of a month's salary of a junior Lord for all the benefits they hope to extract out of this business. No, no! It cannot be! I will not believe it for a moment. The star of the noble Lord, I feel convinced, is not destined to be thus ignominiously quenched.

By-the-by, the *Standard* should not let its political animosity pervert facts. It tells us that "a respectable firm of solicitors vouch that the impending suit in the Divorce Court will under no circumstances be compromised." But the respectable firm of solicitors has done nothing of the sort. All that Mr. Thomas Wells, the head of the "respectable firm of solicitors," has done is this:—Writing to the *Morning Star*, he says "there is no foundation whatever in the statement that an arrangement had been made," &c. No! not that under no circumstances will the suit be compromised, but only that no arrangement has been made. Again, the *Standard* says that "a statesman has rendered himself amenable to an action in a court over which Sir Cresswell Cresswell presided," and here, again, he lets his zeal outstrip his knowledge. It remains to be seen whether the noble Lord has "rendered himself amenable," &c. Perhaps it may turn out that some other persons have rendered themselves amenable to some other court. The *Standard*, further, thus writes:—"Never was there an issue pending to which the good old English rule of fairplay could have been more distinctly applicable, and never was there a case in which it was more necessary to implore that the public should suspend its judgment," &c. "Let not manufacturers of London paragraphs for provincial newspapers make a traffic of this wretched scandal!" Good, very good! But what a pity it is that the *Standard* did not conform its conduct to its own rule, which it has not done—as any one who will read its article will at once perceive.

Not quite forty years ago—it was in the year 1825—George Stephenson was trying to convince a Committee of the House of Commons that a railway train drawn by a locomotive would travel safely at the rate of twelve miles an hour; that the wheels of a locomotive would not slip on the rail, but adhere to it; that it would be possible to take a train of forty tons weight safely round a curve. This was in 1825. In 1830—thirty-three years ago—the Manchester and Liverpool Railway was opened. Well, now let me call attention to a few facts gleaned from a Parliamentary return issued not long since, the figures of which are to me astounding. The capital embarked in 1862 in railways in the United Kingdom amounted to £450,596,788; but let me put the amount in words—four hundred and fifty million five hundred and ninety-six thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight pounds. This is more than half the amount of the National Debt, and more than seven times the amount of the annual value of the real property of Great Britain. The number of passengers by rail in 1862 was 180,429,000, which gives us an average of some six journeys to every man, woman, and child in the kingdom; and in the same year 30,256,913 tons of general merchandise, 64,405,864 tons of minerals, and 12,885,000 head of live stock travelled over 50,518,966 miles. The receipts of all the railway companies amounted in 1862 to £29,128,000. Archbishop Fenelon wrote a book called "Dialogues of the Dead," and several other dialogues of the dead have also appeared, and, generally, these conversations are upon mundane affairs. Now, whilst I was reading these returns, this query came into my mind—Do George Stephenson and Mr. (afterwards Baron) Alderson, who asserted that Geordie's modest ideas on railways were the extravagant notions of a madman, ever meet to talk together? If they do, one could wish that it were possible to transmit to Geordie this return. Railways had, however, been sufficiently developed before either of these gentlemen died to turn the laugh against Alderson.

Another old member of Parliament has slipped away since last I wrote. Mr. William Cubitt, so long Alderman, and twice in succession Lord Mayor of London, is now numbered with the dead. If I were prone to weeping I should drop a tear or two to his memory, for I knew him well, and knew him to be a very honourable, genial, and kindhearted man. He was, moreover, an able man withal. We have in the House of Commons a goodly number of City Aldermen and Common Councillors; but the star of them all, to my thinking, is gone. And he was certainly thought to be so by the House generally. He was always listened to with great respect, albeit he was not eloquent; nor had he, indeed, any of the qualifications of a good speaker; but he was known to be a sensible, well-informed, shrewd, and upright man; a man who did not often speak, but when he did rise had always something worthy of attention to say. I know not what disease carried him off; I suspect, though, that gout had something to do with his removal, and old age more. He complained to me of the aggressions of old age last Session, but I did not expect when I parted with him that I should see him no more.

I observe that great Dukes and other high-born people living in the empyrean of aristocratic life, when they wish to gather round them a number of guests, take care to select them entirely from the denizens of their own sphere, and generally from their political friends. Now, I think this is a very fatal practice, tending very much to contract the intellects and otherwise to injure said high-born personages. It is analogous to the dangerous practice amongst farmers of breeding in and in—the practice amongst clergymen of reading only sectarian books. In short, it is a bad practice—Chinese, Japanese, barbarous. We used to do this sort of thing, as a nation, once; but we have changed all that, and we are all the better for it. Well, I notice this practice that I may call attention to a significant breach of it. In a few weeks Mr. John Bright is to be the guest of Mr. Hastings Russell at Woburn Abbey, and he is to meet there the Speaker of the House of Commons. Well, this is as it should be. Club gossips, who profess to see further than their neighbours, will think they discern some political meaning in this

coming together of the presumptive heir of a Dukedom and a leading Radical. But, rely upon it, there is more. Mr. Bright is an eminent man—a man of extensive and varied knowledge and of great powers, and Mr. Hastings Russell wants to cultivate his acquaintance; this is all.

Do you remember the quaint little brochures popular some twenty years ago, such as "The History of a Pin," "The Adventures of a Guinea," and the like? They are coming in again, across the Atlantic. Not that they assume the same form, or are regarded, as they were with us, as mere lay figures, whereon to hang queer, out-of-the-way fancies anent men and things. Certain highly-gifted spiritualists have taken a far bolder flight than this, and, under the title of "Psychometry," profess to have added a new chapter to the occult sciences. Table-turning, hat-moving, clairvoyance, and the complicated brotherhood of raps and knocks have, I suppose, palled upon the palate, and it has been deemed expedient to stimulate the appetite of believers by the promulgation of a theory which certainly out-herods Herod in its contempt for probability. Ladies and gentlemen who are psychometrically endowed have only to be brought in contact with any piece of inanimate matter to be possessed of its attributes and to give expression to its experiences. Thus, a lady professor touches a chamois-horn in New York, and is not only immediately transported to Switzerland, but gives a vivid description of her journey thither, of alpine scenery, and her mountain home; another lady is with equal ease persuaded that she is a large boulder, and considerably informs her admirers that she feels "as if she were being belched out of a volcano;" while the simple application of a whalebone came to the forehead evoked this elegant speech—"I feel as if I were a monster; my jaws are large enough to take down a house at a gulp." Pretty, is it not? These "facts," mind you, are culled from the published experiences of two experts, Mrs. Denton and Mrs. Lucielle De Viel, whose credibility is vouched for by a highly-respectable clergyman, who forgets, however, to favour us with his name. Do not say "very like a whale" to the last-mentioned example, but accept this new revelation as I do, with unquestioning faith. To be sure, there is not so much novelty in the alleged discovery as appears at first sight; for, if I mistake not, in "The Diary of a Late Physician," there is one gentleman who imagines himself to be made of glass and another who has proof positive that he is an umbrella-stand. I think they are called "monomaniacs" by the pseudo "late physician," but psychometry now proves them to have been philosophers, whose misfortune it was to be a few years in advance of their time. In sober seriousness, is not this last phase of spiritualism painful in its fatuity? Mr. Sothorn, it is well known, practised successfully as a sham medium until he laughingly confessed the hoax. To do this required considerable practice, dexterity, and skill. Psychometry exacts none of these qualities. A talent for mendacity, conferred by nature and improved by art, would seem to be the only requisite, and the simple assertion, "I am a boulder," or "a chamois-horn," has but to be accompanied by a little coarse local colouring to ensure rapturous conviction from complaisant audiences.

You will be amused to learn that the great surname question is once more before the public. A Mr. James Finlayson, eager for the prerogative of the Crown, has published his protest against any loyal subject changing his name without the sanction of the authorities. From time immemorial, he assures us, the Sovereign has had the right of granting or refusing the privilege; and the recent attempt to abrogate this state of things he condemns as an innovation both dangerous and rash. Nor does his protest end here; for he takes a Mr. Bugey roundly to task for his want of taste in abjuring his own graceful patronymic, and reminds him that as Roger di Buci, or Busi, or Bugey, came over with the Conqueror, he is voluntarily renouncing a cognomen which conclusively proves (?) his Norman descent. While on the subject of names, let me ask you whether you are aware of the meaning of some not very uncommon ones? Do you know, for instance, that Caird means a tinker, Shelley a winkle, Trollope a slattern, Maund a beggar, Strutt a fool, Leicester a weaver, and Parnell what Smollett termed "a lady of pleasure"? Not one of these convey their original meaning nowadays, any more than Bugey suggests to the ordinary hearer Norman chivalry or blue blood. But as there are hosts of worthy people whose names are—well, the reverse of pleasing in the associations they conjure up, I can't join Mr. Finlayson in his crusade, but still hope to hear of many cases wherein surnames have been changed through the simple medium of an advertisement in the *Times*.

Since I alluded last week to Mr. Charles Reade's notions on the line which divides sanity from madness, the medical profession has taken the matter up. Readers of *All the Year Round* have been startled and bewildered at Mr. Reade's revelations of madhouse atrocities, and as week after week has brought forward some new phase of professional villany, told with a circumstantiality which gave it at least a semblance of truth, both doctors and patients have stood aghast, and cried "What next, and next?" At length one of the former body impugns Mr. Reade's statements in a letter to a morning paper. Mr. Reade replies characteristically, and confirms everything he has written. Medical men are still more irritated, patients still more uneasy, and the matter is thought of sufficient weight to be dealt with by the leading medical journal. The author of "Very Hard Cash" is pilloried as a malicious scandalmonger, and the public are warned against receiving his assertions as facts. This is surely a great tribute to the novelist's power; and though it may be that his pages are somewhat highly coloured, there can be little doubt that his exposure of the possibilities of injustice will be followed by substantial reforms. It matters little, let me assure the angry medicos, whether Drayton House has an absolute parallel in the real world, but it is of infinite importance that the rampant evils of such an establishment should be rendered impossible by law.

The Rev. W. G. Clark, public orator of the University, and one of the editors of the Cambridge "Shakespeare," has had a grievance and a triumph. His handiwork was impugned in the *Times*, his learning doubted, and the usefulness of his editorial labours gravely denied. But the reviewer, who is understood to be Mr. Dallas, found in Mr. Clark a foeman worthy of his steel, and was in his turn subjected to tolerably severe criticism. That he was mistaken on many important points, and that the Cambridge "Shakespeare" is a more valuable addition to our literature than the *Times'* notice would have led its readers to believe, is, I learn, conceded by most Shakespearean scholars. But Mr. Clark, not unnaturally, considers himself entitled to the right of reply, and, on his two last letters being refused admission by the editor of the *Jupiter*, on the ground of the difference between the reviewer and the reviewed being one "not of fact, but of taste," he determined to publish them in a separate form, and the general impression seems to be that they are conclusive, and that their exclusion from the *Times* is a confession of weakness. This public orator is to be congratulated on his doughty valour in breaking a lance with *Jupiter* at all, but that he should succeed in bringing that great power to bay is a triumph vouchsafed to few college dons indeed. This circumstance will in itself give a distinct interest to the Cambridge edition.

Some officers in the Line have been preferring a serious complaint against the regulation blue frock-coat worn by their class. It appears that the prison warders of Spike Island wear a precisely similar garment, and, as the military forage cap is also worn by these guardians of our convicts, there is said to be no perceptible difference between their appearance and that presented by officers and gentlemen. The organ of the Army is appealed to, and gives cold comfort by hoping that "there is something in the air of an officer which would render a mistake improbable." Surely some energetic reformer will take up such a grievance as this! Think of our defenders being compelled to develop "something in their air" in self-defence!

I have heard an ugly story concerning that portion of the sister service employed in the Channel Fleet and am assured that at the very time of the visitings and junketings, of which we have all read, the men of more than one of her Majesty's ships were on the verge of mutiny. Indeed, if it be, strictly speaking, mutiny to refuse obedience to orders, the 200 men who declined to answer when piped up were guilty of that offence. Harshness of discipline is the

cause assigned, and directly the lights were out on board some of these vessels Jack made his nightly protest by throwing things about the deck. Admiring visitors little thought when exchanging compliments with bland naval officers that they were standing over a smouldering volcano.

Dr. Mackay, the able and plucky correspondent of the *Times* at New York, has returned to England, and Signor Gallenga, whose letters from the Western States to the leading journal have just begun to excite attention, has been transferred to Dr. Mackay's post. Report says that the *Times*, for certain political reasons, intends to trim its sails due North, and hence the recall of its late correspondent, who could hardly be asked to eat his own words by the ruling powers of Printing-house-square. Mr. George Augustus Sala, who has contributed many an admirable essay, many an able sketch, and several clever stories to the pages of this Journal, starts this day week across the Atlantic, in the interest of the *Daily Telegraph*; and, ere Christmas comes round, the English public will have an opportunity of studying a few minute and graphic sketches of the present aspect of American society, with all its wild political excitement, its mad anger against this country, and its ridiculous conceit in its own infallibility, limned by the same skilful hand which, at the close of the Crimean War, hit off so happily the characteristic features of another nation "Due North."

THE LITERARY LOUNGER.

THE MAGAZINES.

There is no doubt that the most attractive paper in the new number of the *Cornhill* is J. O.'s "Account of the Mhow Court-Martial." Everybody knows how the "gentleman whose real name Higgins is" can write when he finds a foeman worthy of his steel—pen; and never have his diatribes been fuller of pungency than in his flaying of Colonel Crawley, Sir Hugh Rose, and General Farrell. Evidence supplements evidence, and the deductions drawn are set forth in the plainest English, and without the smallest sign of reticence; and, in the eyes of the reader who contents himself with the *Cornhill* for his literature, Colonel Crawley is already a condemned man. But there is a very general feeling that Mr. Higgins has had no right thus to publish his stricture before the sitting of the formally-appointed court of inquiry; and Mr. Thomas Hughes has published a letter in the *Spectator* vindicating, not the cause of Colonel Crawley, but the majesty of Justice, and the absolute necessity of refraining from comment until the trial has taken place. A flip from the anonymous correspondent of a newspaper would do Colonel Crawley but little harm; but Mr. Higgins should recollect that his literary power is in proportion to his bodily strength, and that there would be a considerable difference between a stamp from his foot and a brush from a butterfly's wing. One of Mr. Trollope's chapters this month is dull. It treats of Mr. Plantagenet Palliser and Lady Dumbello, characters who have nothing to do with the plot of the story, and who are wholly uninteresting; but the marriage of the Lady Alexandrina with Croebie and the bride's behaviour on the journey to Folkestone are inimitably described, and have here and there happy touches, shining like gems. Two stories are commenced this month, both promising well. To one of them is attached an illustration, "The Brook," which is simply disgraceful as a specimen of drawing. "Strange to say, upon Club Paper" is one of Mr. Thackeray's usual bursts of virtuous indignation, in which he breaks so many butterflies on wheels. It appears that the *Observer* had a paragraph to the effect that the oedipal to Lord Clyde's will was, "strange to say, on the Athenaeum Club notepaper, though dated at Chatham." No one cares much what the *Observer* says about such matters. Until Mr. Thackeray gave the paragraph the publicity of the *Cornhill's* circulation, very few people had ever heard of it; and even if the fact it stated were true, what on earth did it matter?

The *Victoria Magazine* is a shilling's-worth of dead weight. A long, dreary paper by Miss Faithfull, "On the Unfit Employments in which Women are engaged," which was read at the recent Social Science Congress, takes up a large portion of its contents. Will Miss Faithfull permit me to ask her whether she has not found, from experience, that printing is one of these "unfit employments"? And will she answer me whether or not there is any truth in the report that nearly all the composition of the women has to be done over again by men? Mr. George MacDonald's "Songs of the Autumn Nights" are melodious, and Mr. Matthew Arnold's "Essay on Marcus Aurelius" is very learned and utterly out of place.

Blackwood has a very interesting and well-written description of "Ducal Darmstadt," contained in one of the old-fashioned letters of Tlepolemus to Irenæus, but containing much closer observation and smarter writing than are usually found in those wordy documents. There is also an admirable review of Mr. Hawthorne's book on England—a review in which there is far more plain speaking and expression of natural indignation at Mr. Hawthorne's insolence than I have seen elsewhere. There is also a "May Song," by Pisistratus Caxton, about as bad as bad can be; and an article called "Our Rancorous Cousins," written towards its conclusion in a very warlike spirit.

London Society holds its ground by virtue of its illustrations, which are still good—notably one this month by Miss Adelaide Claxton, called "The Constitutional." There is also a good portrait of Miss Bateman, in "Leah," and a short memoir of that actress, in which the writer "piles up the agony" and emulates the "high-valuation" style of his heroine's countrymen. "The World Behind the Scenes" is a well-written account of the inner life of the theatre, though the policy of further stripping off what few scraps of mystery still remain to the actor's calling may be questioned. The humorous gentleman who writes under the signature of "Jack Basel" contributes a story called "The Little Hop in Harley-street;" and here is a specimen of Mr. Easel's fun:—

Hail, gentle Bos, daughter of Hyperion, hail! Let me hasten to propitiate thee with incense from a fragrant herb—very precious—brought in tall ships from across the loud-sounding sea—prepared by dusky maidens in a far-off land—the fertile country of Havannah!

In *Temple Bar* the story of "John Marchmont's Legacy" is evidently drawing to a close, and as it approaches its conclusion the threads are drawn together and the interest deepens. A paper on "Comic Literature," denouncing in unmeasured terms the humorous publications of the day, will doubtless attract attention, no less from its smart phrasing than from its manifest impartiality. *Punch*, *Fun*, and the *Comic News* are each successively assailed, and from each are taken quotations, amply proving the charge of inane silliness which the writer brings against them. Perhaps he is most severe against the *Punch* staff, especially in a passage where he speaks of them as conservators of a close borough, unwilling to admit any neophyte, however great his talent, and compares them to "a set of Von Joels, who, on account of their long service, will always be retained on the establishment." This is hard hitting, but it has been provoked, and it may succeed perhaps in lowering the tone of a few writers who are in the habit of airing their literary position, as connected with "Whitfriars," in a manner that would be insolent did not a knowledge of the real state of affairs render it ludicrous. An article called "Marriage not à la Mode" is cleverly written, but the writer's theories are scarcely borne out by the figures which he adduces. A paper called "Bluebeard at Home" is written with some freshness, and aims at the display of a certain amount of shrewd appreciation; but, so far as concerns the real life of the original of the nursery legend hero, the writer is evidently ill-informed—not to say almost entirely ignorant—having depended, apparently, for all his facts on a work which is only entitled to rank as a local guide-book of no particular pretension. Had he consulted the bibliophile Jacob's work on the same subject, he would have found the crimes of Gilles de Laval, Sieur de Retz, for that was his true cognomen, to have been something more horrible still than either murder or sorcery.

Although *The Rose*, *the Shamrock*, and *the Thistle Magazine* has seen nineteen numbers and completed its third volume, I am ashamed to say I have never before met with it. It is a magazine intended for ladies, edited by a lady, and printed by women, and it is probably the very silliest publication that ever was issued from a printing-press. It differs from all other examples of its kind. The *Englishwoman's Journal* is occasionally shrilly sour, as becomes the

advocate of woman's rights; the *Victoria* is portentously dull; but the *Rose*, &c., is simply silly. The "opening address" is the feeblest fribble, and even in an "In Memoriam" article on Archbishop Whately you come upon the italicised words and evidently "dashed under" phrases by which women endeavour to strengthen the weakness of their writing. It is difficult to say which paper in the number is the feeblest; but perhaps that which is most pretentious and least effective is a criticism, by a Mr. Williams, on "Pickwick." Mr. Williams finds *Pickwick* "exciting paroxysms of laughter and flooding us in rich prodigality with jokes and waggeries, and odd remarks and facetiousness." What a compliment to the great master to be told that he "floods" his readers with "facetiousness!" Mr. Williams is, however, not all honey; he carries a sting, which is so good that it must be quoted entire.

Nothing but a deep-rooted contempt of the principles announced by Jesus Christ could have put these words into Old Weller's mouth:—"She's got hold of some invention for grown-up people being born again, Sammy—the new birth, I think they call it. I should very much like to see that system in action, Sammy. I should very much like to see your mother-in-law born again. Wouldn't I put her out to nurse!" The irreligious levity of these remarks carries its own significant comment.

The *Rose*, &c., does not lack verse, and prints a poem by a Mr. S. H. Bradbury, who calls himself Quallon, in a parenthesis, and who contributes four stanzas, one of which I cull as a specimen—

And redder lips I ne'er had seen,
They made enchantment when they stirred;
As sweet before there may have been,
But none so formed to grace a word!
'Twas beautiful to see them part,
And she unconscious of her charms;
As babe wrought by the sculptor's art,
With moonlight gleaming on its arms!

It is to be hoped that the *Rose*, &c., does not penetrate to the Isle of Wight, or the Laureate may feel uncomfortable!

The *Intellectual Observer* (so called to distinguish it from the Sunday print) is, as usual, full of interesting research, pleasantly conveyed. Foremost among those understanding the true art of sugaring science is Mr. Shirley Hibbard, who this month has a very pleasant and instructive paper called "Botanising at Oakshot Heath."

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE LYCEUM last Saturday was a sight; nearly all the people in London known as taking interest in the drama were there. Mr. Fechter's success last year, the fact that the stage machinery was entirely new, and on a new plan whence strange "effects" were anticipated, and the knowledge that enormous expense had been incurred in mounting the new piece, collected an anxious audience, cramming the house to repletion. By half-past seven every seat was filled, and the coup-d'œil was magnificent. By that time the first piece, "Uncle Baby," perhaps one of the most ineffective farces ever produced, was half over, and the audience were beginning to hiss lustily. They hissed on, despite Mr. Widdicombs's talent and Miss O. Leclercq's charms, and the curtain fell on "Uncle Baby" amid a storm of hisses. The public showed their taste; the farce was bad, and they condemned it.

No need now to detail to your readers the plot of "Bel Demonio." If theatrically inclined, they mastered that last Monday morning; if not theatrically inclined, nothing would make them read it at all. You know the old story of Sixtus V., chosen Pope on account of his apparent infirmities and seemingly proximate death, and showing that he had been all along playing a part, and was as able-bodied and more clear-headed than most of his antagonists. With this, imagine woven up a love story, with Mr. Fechter and Miss Terry as hero and heroine, Mr. Emery as a rough soldier sympathising with the young people, and Mr. Jordan as an unpleasant nobleman determined to oppose them. Garnish with the best—that is to say, the most real—scenery you ever saw, clever dialogue, and admirable acting, and you may serve up, hot, every evening from now until July, to a crammed house.

The acting was excellent. Mr. Fechter, spite of horrible nervousness—nervousness which now and then hampered his enunciation and printed itself vividly on his features—played with a fascination—that is the word—which, to my thinking, no other actor nowadays possesses. Old James Wallack had it, but I've seen no one with it since. Miss Terry was simply perfect: attitude and gesture, tone and manner, perfect. One passage, where she stops her lover in the act of telling his name, content with the alias by which she has known him, was, in accent and pantomime, a gem. Capital, too, was Mr. Emery as the rough, honest soldier—a little loose in his words, perhaps, but making up for that by his artistic finish. And Miss Elsworth and Mr. Jordan, who have hideously bad parts, yet remain on the memory by their appearance and costume, each looking like an old Velasquez portrait; but the man who astonished me most of all was Mr. Brougham, who played the Cardinal, who eventuates into Sixtus V. His make-up was most admirable; no one knew him on his entrance, and his assumption of the character increased his reputation a hundredfold with those who best knew his histrionic career.

A most preposterous farce, eliciting genuine roars of irrepressible laughter by its sheer absurdity, a translation from the French by Mr. Oxenford, called "Beauty and the Beast," has been produced at DRURY LANE.

To-night (Saturday) Mr. Charles Mathews appears in a new farce with an old title ("A Bull in a China Shop") at the HAYMARKET.

Mr. J. Clarke, the popular burlesque actor of the Strand Theatre, takes his benefit this evening (Saturday) at the Princess Theatre, under the patronage of the Duke of Wellington, the Marquis of Hastings, the Earl of Fife, and a number of gentlemen well known in connection with literature and the drama. The bill is a most attractive one, and includes the names of several favourites besides Mr. Clarke himself, who will make his first appearance since his severe accident.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

WINDSOR.—The contest in Windsor has terminated in favour of Colonel Vyse, the Conservative candidate, the numbers at the close of the poll being—Vyse, 287; Hayter, 236; majority, 51.

ANDOVER.—Mr. Hawkshaw, the eminent engineer, has started as a candidate in the Liberal interest for the vacancy in this borough caused by the death of Mr. Cubitt.

OXFORD.—Mr. Neate, is the only candidate in the field. No opposition is intended.

THE CRAWLEY COURT-MARTIAL.—The preparations for the court-martial to be held at Aldershot upon Colonel Crawley are nearly complete, as far as the chamber is concerned in which the military tribunal will hold its sittings. Those who have witnessed field-days at the camp, or had occasion to visit the permanent barracks, will have noticed on their way thither from the Farnborough station a house built entirely of iron, and lying on the right-hand side of the road, from which it is separated by a garden rather tastefully laid out. This house, originally erected by private enterprise, fell into the hands of the Government, some two years ago, on easy terms, and is now the club-house at Aldershot. In one of the larger rooms—not the very largest, for that, no doubt, would be inconveniently long and draughty—the inquiry will take place. Across the lower end a barrier has been erected of sufficiently stout proportions to roll off the curious, who, in the earlier stages at least of the inquiry, will no doubt muster in considerable force. The table round which the officers composing the court-martial will sit occupies as nearly as possible the centre of the apartment, and at either side are smaller tables intended for the use of the official prosecutor and the defendant respectively. The remaining space, corresponding to that in the possession of the audience at the other end of the room, but, of course, without any intervening barrier, will be allocated to the reporters.

THE CONFEDERATE CRUISERS.—The arrival of the Vanderbilt at the Cape seems to have been the signal for the Confederate cruisers to beat a retreat from that quarter. The Georgia made off at once, as if for the West Indies; the Tuscaloosa, when last spoken, was apparently making in the same direction; and the Alabama, by letters received by this mail, seems to have as speedily stood to the eastward, for when the steamer left Gallie her proximity to that port was felt to be anything but pleasant for the numerous fleet of American vessels, both there and at Colombo. The mail-steamer *Shunlee*, which arrived at Colombo from Bombay on the 30th of September, was chased by the Alabama, but on British colours being hoisted the Southerner stood away. It is reported she is en route for China waters. The Georgia arrived at Cherbourg on Friday evening for coals and supplies. This arrival gives colour to the report that she, in company with the Florida, intended cruising again in the Atlantic.

THE LORD MAYOR ELECT.

ALDERMAN WM. LAWRENCE, who has been elected to fill the office of Lord Mayor for the ensuing year, is the eldest son of the late Alderman William Lawrence, the founder of the well-known firm of Messrs. William Lawrence and Sons, builders and contractors, of which the Lord Mayor Elect is now the senior partner, the second partner being his brother, Alderman Jas. Clarke Lawrence, elected by the ward of Walbrook in 1860, who has just served the office of Sheriff of London and Middlesex, and who is, consequently, eligible for the chief magistracy when his seniors in the Court of Aldermen who have not yet held the dignity shall have passed the chair.

The Lord Mayor Elect is a man well versed in City affairs. His father, the late Alderman Lawrence, was a man gifted with singular sagacity and originality of mind, and with unusual force and energy of character; and, after a successful career in business and an active participation in public affairs, he was unanimously chosen to represent the ward of Bread-street in the Court of Aldermen in 1848. He served the office of Sheriff of London and Middlesex in the following year, and for several years was an active magistrate of the city of London. His death, in 1855, alone prevented his attaining the high position of Lord Mayor. The loss of such a man was deeply deplored wherever he had been called to discharge public functions, and especially by the inhabitants of his own ward; and, as a token at once of their respect for the memory of their late Alderman and of confidence in the family of which he was the head, they elected his eldest son, the now Lord Mayor Elect, to succeed him in the vacant gown. Alderman Lawrence entered at once on the discharge of his duties. In 1857 he was elected Sheriff of London; and the marriage of the Princess Royal with the Crown Prince of Prussia was solemnised during his year of office. As a magistrate of Middlesex, as well as of London, he has for many years taken an active part in public affairs; and as the head of a firm largely interested in the trade and commerce of London, and especially conversant with great public works, he was elected by the Court of Common Council as one of their representatives at the Metropolitan Board of Works, and has now

succeeded to the highest civic dignity, while, as we have mentioned, his brother also wears an aldermanic gown. So far as we are aware, the circumstance of a father and two sons being Aldermen of London is unexampled in the history of the Corporation.

Alderman Lawrence is a bachelor, and his sister, Miss Lawrence,

will be the Lady Mayoress. Remembering the way in which Alderman Lawrence has hitherto discharged his public and private duties, we have no doubt that he will so acquit himself in his new position as to retain and increase the esteem and regard of his fellow-citizens and uphold the privileges and hospitalities of the Corporation.

The Lawrence family possess extensive property in the city. When Cannon-street, Cannon-street West, and New Earl-street were laid out, the firm took a large portion of the ground, upon which they erected extensive buildings, and the Lord Mayor Elect and his family possess very valuable properties in these streets, besides having realised a large sum by the sale of the block of buildings known as Unity-buildings, comprising Nos. 7, 8, 9, and 10, Cannon-street, to the South Eastern Railway Company.

The Lord Mayor Elect was presented, in accordance with ancient custom, to the Lord Chancellor on Monday morning, and from that high functionary received the assurance of the Queen's approval of the choice of the citizens, accompanied by the compliments and congratulations usual on the occasion.



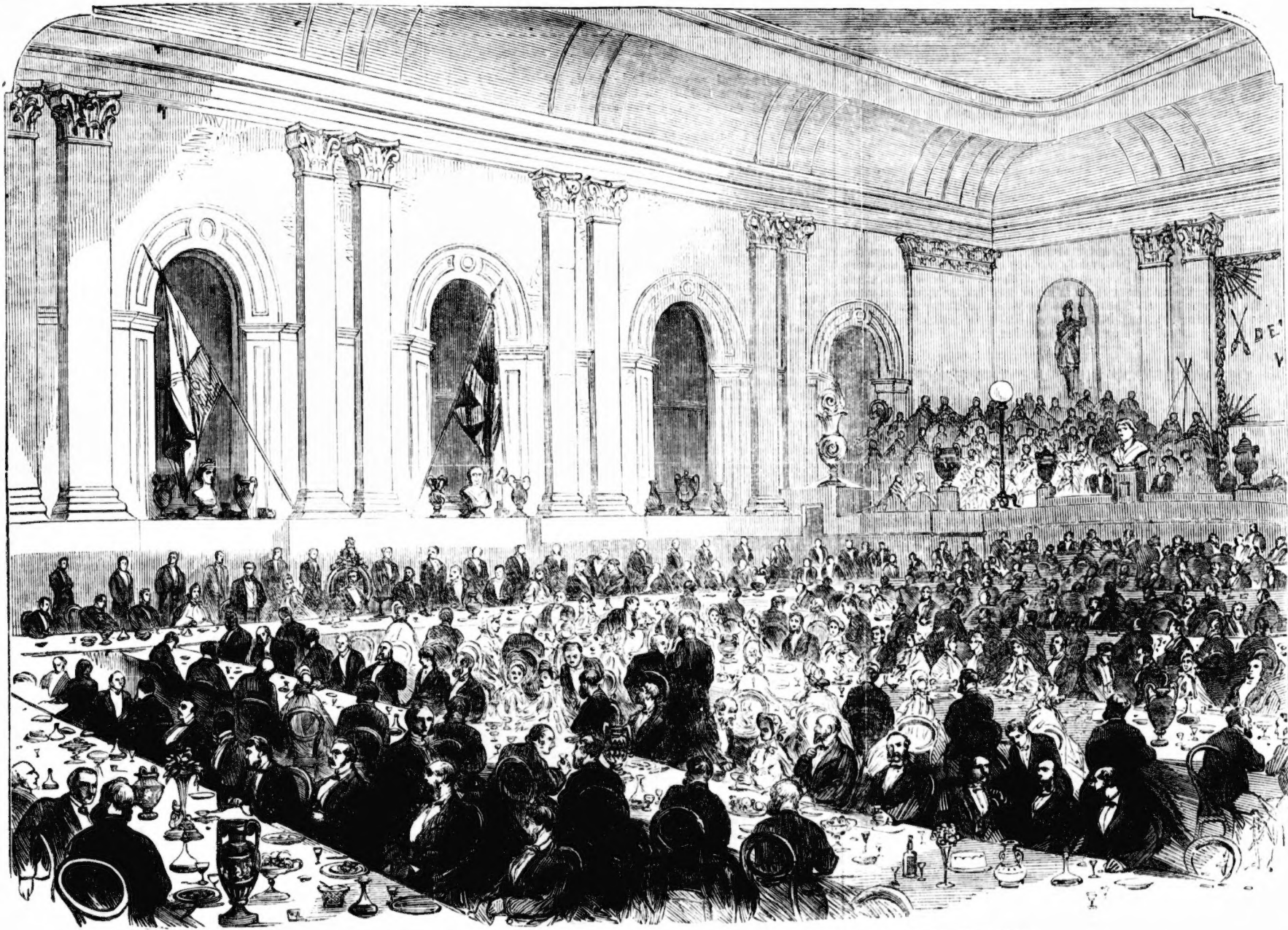
W. LAWRENCE, ESQ., ALDERMAN FOR THE WARD OF BREAD-STREET, LORD MAYOR ELECT.—(FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY THE LONDON STEREOSCOPIC COMPANY.)

INSTALLATION OF EARL DE GREY AND RIPON AS HIGH STEWARD OF HULL.

On Thursday, the 29th ult., Earl De Grey was installed as High Steward of Hull. In the morning he was present at the launch of four iron vessels from the building-yard of Messrs. Samuelson, and Co., one of which was named the Countess of Ripon and another the Earl De Grey and Ripon. After the launch the company breakfasted in the moulding-loft of the shipbuilding yard. There were present 250 guests. His Lordship afterwards went to the Trinity House, where he was made an honorary brother, and entertained at luncheon. About two o'clock his Lordship proceeded to the Townhall, Lowgate, for the purpose of being installed in the office of High Steward. Here were assembled the members of the Corporation, the members of the consular body, as well as the various orders, guilds, and societies of the town. On the platform were the Aldermen of the borough; Samuel Warren, Esq., D.C.L., the borough Recorder; and Messrs. Clay and Somers, the borough members. The Mayor occupied the chair. The preliminaries



INSTALLATION OF EARL DE GREY AND RIPON AS HIGH STEWARD OF HULL.



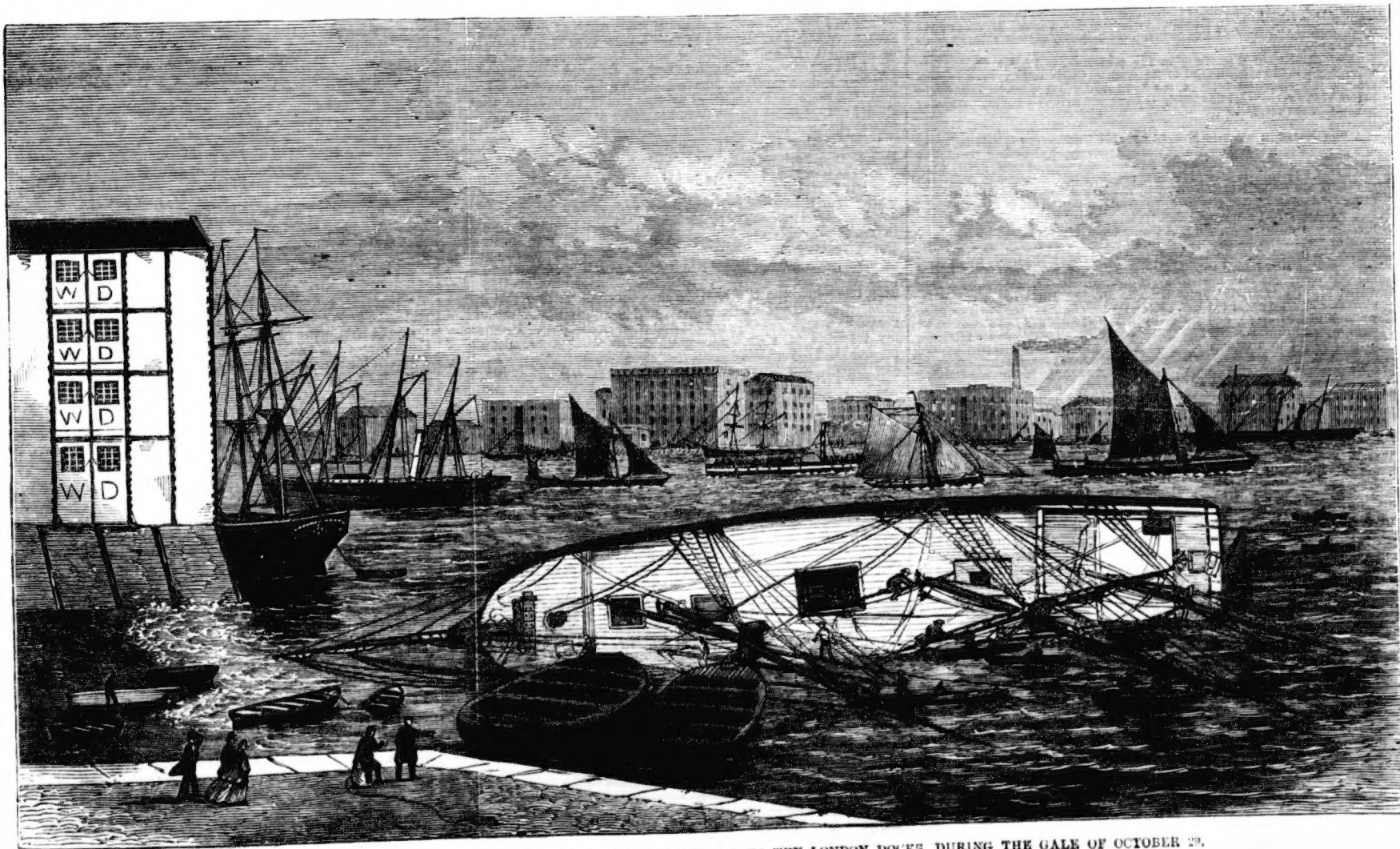
BANQUET AT BURSLEM ON OCCASION OF LAYING THE FOUNDATION-STONE OF THE WEDGEWOOD INSTITUTE.

having been arranged, his Lordship formally accepted the office. The Town Clerk then administered the usual oaths, which were attested by the Mayor and the Recorder. His Lordship then briefly addressed the audience. He said he felt grateful for the high office bestowed upon him—grateful, because he had thus an opportunity of renewing his connection with that ancient and honourable borough; and, as he had now become an officer of the town, he should feel called upon at all times to promote its interests, and to guard them as he would guard his own.

A procession was then formed for the purpose of proceeding to the People's Park, where a marble statue of her Majesty, executed by Mr. Thomas Earle, of London, was inaugurated. In the evening a

banquet was given in the Assembly Rooms—the Mayor in the chair, supported on his right by Earl De Grey and Ripon and Mr. Warren, and on his left by Lord Hotham, M.P., and Mr. James Clay, M.P. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been disposed of, the chairman gave the toast of the evening, "The Right Hon. the Earl De Grey and Ripon." His Lordship, on rising, was received with applause. After thanking the Mayor and Corporation for the high honour they had done him, he said that we lived in times when no man who looked abroad could doubt that it was the duty of the Government, having a due regard to the economy of public money, to take care that they took no step that would tend to diminish the efficiency of our military forces, or in any way weaken our national

defences. He could see no grounds for fearing that the peace which now existed would be broken. It was our duty towards foreign countries to do to others as we would they should do to us, and apply the principles and maxims that we would like to have applied to ourselves. We should remember when we were neutral that we might again become belligerents. It was in that spirit that the Government of which he had the honour to be a member had undertaken to act. After a few remarks on the duties of the office in which he had that day been installed, his Lordship resumed his seat amid loud bursts of applause. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Lord Hotham, Mr. James Clay, and Mr. J. Somers.



CAPSIZING OF THE BARQUE BENLIDA, AT THE WAPPING ENTRANCE TO THE LONDON DOCKS, DURING THE GALE OF OCTOBER 29.

CAPSIZING OF A VESSEL IN THE THAMES.

On the evening of Thursday, the 29th ult., a fine barque called the Benlida, which has recently discharged a cargo from China in St. Katherine Docks, was being towed down the river by the Monarch tug, from those docks, on her way to a wharf lower down the Pool, to take in ballast, when, on getting nearly abreast of the Wapping entrance of the London Docks, a sudden and heavy squall of wind from the southward and westward caught the ship; she took a list on the port side and immediately went over on her beam-ends. The occurrence created much excitement in the Pool, and boats immediately put off to the aid of the crew, who were to be seen scrambling up the rigging. Fortunately, the ship's masts and yards, as they rested upon the water, gave a buoyancy to the vessel and prevented her at once sinking. After much exertion the ship was got to the Middlesex shore, close in by Wapping Old Stairs, where she gradually filled with water. At low water she lay on her beam ends, nearly high and dry, with her bowsprit between the Wapping entrance and a lofty range of buildings recently erected for the War Department. Great exertions were made to lighten the upper part of the rigging by removing some of the yards, &c., and several lighters were made fast to help the ship to rise with the tide; and on Friday evening she resumed her natural position, fortunately without having sustained any very serious damage. It is reported that one of the crew was much injured by the anchor or chain in some way falling upon him when the ship went over. The cause of the vessel capsizing is attributed to her being without ballast, a condition in which vessels are frequently moved from one dock to another.

THE WEDGWOOD INSTITUTE—THE BANQUET AT BURSLEM.

In our last week's Number we published an outline of the address delivered by Mr. Gladstone in laying the foundation-stone of the Wedgwood Memorial Institute at Burslem. We now present our readers with an engraving illustrative of the banquet given on the occasion in the Townhall, which was tastefully and appropriately decorated. The principal speaker at the entertainment was Earl Granville, who touched upon some of the leading points of public interest in replying to the toast of "Her Majesty's Ministers." A curious incident occurred in the course of the evening. Lord Granville proposed the toast of "The Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese and the Ministers of other Denominations," coupling with it the names of the Bishop of Lichfield and the Rev. J. Blackwell, a Dissenting minister. The Bishop of Lichfield, in responding, said he felt proud to be coupled in the toast with the ministers of other denominations, and he was glad to acknowledge the good which those ministers were doing in places where the Church of England clergy could not reach the people. These liberal views of the good old prelate called forth expressions of the most hearty concurrence from the company, and they were cordially reciprocated by the Rev. J. Blackwell. At this stage of the proceedings, however, Mr. Woodall, the secretary of the committee, said he had a duty to perform, rather than discharge which he would gladly have exchanged places with the policeman at the door, for he had to announce a protest against the toast from the Rector of Burslem, on the ground, it was understood, of the association with it of "the ministers of other denominations." The announcement elicited very strong expressions of disapprobation, and it was ultimately decided that the communication did not merit even the courtesy of being read.

THE POLISH NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

A VIENNA PAPER gives the following account of the present organisation of the Polish National Government:—

The National Government consists of seven members, which change frequently and according to the current of popular opinion. Alongside of the Government, and independent of it, is the Supreme Court of Justice, the Revolutionary Tribunal, which is irresponsible for its judgments. Next under the National Government stands the Town Captain of Warsaw, who controls the Executive Department; he receives the commands of the National Government, and the decrees of the Revolutionary Tribunal, to the execution of which he sees. The Warsaw Town Captain and the members of the National Government are only known to the so-called "Ten Thousand Men." Of these "Ten Thousand Men" there are ten who stand in direct communication with the Town Captain, and the Government deliver to the latter all the documents and informations directed to it, and elect the members of the Government when one or other member retires from his post from any cause. The ten "Ten Thousand Men" have for subordinates ten "Thousand Men," and these last superintend the ten "Hundred Men," and they again are above the ten "Ten Men."

Now, by way of example of the working of this machinery, does any person, not belonging to the Warsaw National Organisation, want to give information to the Government, he gives the document to any thorough patriot known to him as such. If this person, for example, stands under one of the "ten men," he forwards the communication to his immediate superior, who, in his turn, hands it to one of his ten superiors, the "hundred men," who are known to him and his colleagues; this man again delivers it to one of the ten "thousand men," who hands the document either to the Town Captain or to one of the members of the National Government.

The replacing of the missing members of this network is done in this fashion. If, for example, the office of a "thousand man" is vacant, the "one thousand" men meet together, and the majority of their votes appoints the new "thousand" man.

This organisation exists also in the provinces, which are divided into voivodeschasts and subordinated to the Warsaw Organisation. Trustworthy agents are the intermediaries between the town and rural organisations. The person of the voivode is known only to these and to the "ten men" standing next under the voivode.

A BREAKWATER AT THE MOUTH OF THE TEES.—The foundation-stone of a breakwater was laid on Tuesday at the mouth of the River Tees. The breakwater is intended to extend seawards upwards of two miles, when completed. It will, it is anticipated, not only be the means of deepening the navigable channel of the river, by increasing the scour, but will also form an admirable harbour of refuge during the prevalence of easterly gales.

A PARALLEL.—I can remember with what horror I used to read about the horrid car of Juggernaut, and that thousands of human beings would gladly rush in front of it to be crushed to atoms under its ponderous wheels. I believe the British Government upset that car arrangement. It was a cruel institution, but we have got an American Juggernaut to which the Indian car was an infant compared to a full-grown monster. Our car has been driven by various drivers, from Scott to Meade. Hundreds of thousands have been crushed under this car. More than six hundred thousand perished while McClellan drove, and yet many lick his hands and feet as though he were a god. Now the work is going on again. The people got reluctant to go forward to a certain death under the wheels of our Juggernaut, and a draught was ordered. The poor wretches were carried off from their friends shrieking with horror to be put under the wheels, whence not one in ten escaped. If they attempted to run away from their horrible doom they were chained together and kept until they could be shot for desertion. Now the President is out with a blessed proclamation. Our Juggernaut wants more victims. His appetite increased with what it feeds on. He once wanted but 75,000. Now nothing less than 300,000 at a time will answer. Now all the journals call upon the fathers and mothers and relatives to send forward cheerfully this last-called-for instalment of 300,000 of our bravest, but loved ones, that they may be hurled under the car of Juggernaut as speedily as possible. And what will it all amount to? For what purpose is it? The Southern States are doing the same. Millions must die yet, as millions have died since this war began, and are we any nearer its end now?—*Manhattan*.

GUY FAWKES DAY.—Thursday was the anniversary of the celebrated attempt of the notorious Guy Fawkes and his desperate friends to blow up the Constitution in the persons of the Lords and Commons of England. The morning was wet, and that circumstance somewhat interfered with the demonstrations which are ordinarily made on the 5th of November. The persons, however, who had prepared Guy's were not to be thwarted, and a considerable number of them, many of huge dimensions, were paraded through the streets of London. The Pope, who used to be the person most in request at these exhibitions, seemed to be entirely forgotten. The Emperor of Russia might be seen everywhere, in some cases flourishing a tremendous knout, in others with his foot on the necks of some very queer-looking persons supposed to be Poles, but who were more like very poor Africans. The American struggle naturally suggested some of the Guy's—the sympathisers with the North exhibiting various phases of slavery, while those whose views were favourable to the South paraded Mr. President Lincoln in all sorts of vicious shapes. Cardinal Wiseman was exhibited on a truck near the Houses of Parliament and the Courts of Law early in the morning; but his Eminence appeared to have lost the unpopularity which at one time attached to his name, and the effigy failed to produce a sensation even of the feeblest kind. There were, of course, many minor exhibitions, having no political, religious, or any other significance.

OUR FEUILLETON.

THE LONG RECKONING.

(Continued from page 283.)

CHAPTER VIII.

"What sort of person is Lady Adela Fitzmaurvid? and why did"—Here Lady Helen hesitated. The carriage containing mother and daughter had just driven away from the door of Melmerby House, and Lord Beltane had not a cast in it this time.

"Why did he show so much interest in her?" Lady Helen blushed. It is startling to young creatures who have scarcely discovered their own secret to find how the whole labyrinth of love, so new and perplexing to themselves, is as perspicuously mapped out and treated as much as a matter of course by maternal experience as the channels and mudbanks of a complicated estuary are by a master pilot.

It was clear her mother had discovered both her preference and the misgiving which had fallen athwart it; and, moreover, she did not mean to dissemble her knowledge, or she would not have mentioned Mr. Strensal as the third-personal pronoun by pre-eminence.

"Yes, mother, dear!" she said, overcoming a first impulse to turn away her face and dissemble her trouble, "that is what I want to know; tell me, dear." And as she said this she laid her hand softly on her mother's, and looked confidently in her mother's face, with all the tell-tale colour in her own.

"My own darling, dearest, openhearted treasure!" said the affectionate mamma, tenderly pressing her child's hand. "Has the first shadow crossed the morning sunshine? It is the shadow shows us what the sunshine is."

"Please mamma, do make haste and tell me. Does he—does Mr. Strensal really care about that poor Lady Adela, and what is she like? I have never seen her; tell me all about it. I am sure there is some mystery, and Beltane said it in a disagreeable way, as if he had some intention in it. He seemed unwilling to confess he had heard it from Lady De Vergund; and what occasion had he to go to her? You know you always shake your head about her, as if she was an objectionable person. And Margaret Gaveloch and Lady Matilda both looked annoyed. I am sure there was some mystery, and I do so hate mysteries. Tell me all about it, dearest."

And then Lady Bexteymont gave her daughter a short version of the circumstances which the reader knows; which version the reader will please to imagine. Of course, nothing was said of Lady Adela, or Lady Adela's friend, that should not be told to tender innocence.

Helen's mother had no desire to damage Strensal in her daughter's estimation; but she was not sorry to see in Helen's sensitive distress at the idea of a former attachment a retarding element.

If destiny seemed to set resolutely in Strensal's favour, she was too good a mother to withstand spontaneous matrimony, backed by forty thousand a year. But she still had a hankering after more magnificent possibilities. And, in short, her theory, in spite of a species of maternal presentiment that Edmund Strensal was to be the man, did not coincide with Lord Melmerby's views on "marriage by the first intention." Time should be given leisure to show; and delays could not be considered dangerous in the first season.

The result of all this was that Helen recognised the fact that her liking was not mere friendship; and she began thenceforward to doubt whether there was anything more than mere friendship on the other side.

The impression her mother had conveyed to her was that Strensal, being a cool, reasonable sort of man, little disposed to romantic emotions, and whose judgment had already got the better of at least one serious penchant, was not very likely to lose his heart in any great hurry. He might admire her—indeed, he could hardly help doing that. He might like her, take an interest in her; but he would be a long while before he knew himself whether he loved her. He was essentially a doubter and a balancer; his political action showed that, though, to be sure, he seemed to be coming round to the right views; and Lady Girandole had hinted at certain possibilities—but that was not to the present point. He was certainly a man of excellent character, and likely to make a good husband to anybody who waited long enough for him to make up his mind, and who in the meantime did not, like poor Adela, forfeit his rather fastidious approval. No doubt his relations were anxious for him to marry.

Depend upon it, Matilda Strensal and Margaret Gaveloch are perpetually singing your praises to him. They know well enough what a darling treasure you are; and Georgiana, who has become one of them, is naturally very anxious to have you for her next neighbour at Thorskelf. Matilda, and Margaret, and Georgiana are all of them very good and dear women. But their first thought is for their son and brother and themselves, though I like them no worse for loving and coveting you for a daughter and a sister. My first thought is for you, my pet. And I should like you to be very sure that their sober, conscientious Edmund really loves you a good deal beyond mere calm approval before you waste your good thoughts on him. I could understand that his wife, when he has one, should grow more and more attached to such a man with years; for I think he has great and good qualities of character, intellect, and temper. But he is not the sort of person to feel or, I should have thought, to inspire a violent passion. I have seen for some time that you liked him, and there is no objection to that; only it is better that he should not see it too plainly or in too great a hurry—at least, until he has shown unmistakable signs of serious intentions."

"Oh, mother dear! it is such a wicked and treacherous world that it is dangerous to seem as one is? We must treat those we dislike as if we liked them? and those we like as if we distrusted them? It makes me miserable to think that I have, perhaps, been giving him the impression that I—I cannot say what a terrible suspicion you have roused in my mind. Will he think me wanting in reserve, in modesty, because—Oh, mother! he was so different from everybody else. There was nothing in his manner to put me on my guard—none of those little conceits of self-consciousness, none of the small change of flattery, which, in the conversation of other men, keep reminding one at every turn that they are putting themselves before one in an advantageous light, and asking for admiration and regard by a display of their talents and their sentiments. He answers my thoughts as if there were none of the troublesome details of personal identity attached to either of us, and his mind seems so clear, and honest, and generous that I have never felt an instinct of caution, such as takes shelter behind reserve with people who are full of themselves and eager to make a good impression. All that happy unconsciousness is gone—wretched unconsciousness, I ought rather to call it, since it seems that it looked like indelicate boldness even to my own mother. Nay, do not deny it; it is true, and I condemn myself on my own evidence. Something of this shame, only not so clearly seen, struck through me when I found myself guilty of such dismay at the discovery of his interest in that poor Lady Adela. It never occurred to me to think how I should feel if he liked somebody else as much or more than me. And now even to hear he has once, long ago, cared for some one (who, you say, was not worthy of him, and fell from his esteem), even that memory of faded love, which is perhaps now dead and gone, is gall and bitterness to me. And to think that I should have let my folly betray me into this weakness without a word or a sign of anything beyond the mere courtesies of common acquaintance! No doubt he is frank, and earnest, and sociable in his intelligence, whoever he talks to, quite as much as to me. Oh! what shall I do? What will he think of me if a change in my manner to him, now, shows him—that will it not show him? Why did you not speak to me sooner, mother? How could you see me committing myself so recklessly without warning me before it was too late?" And Helen sank back dejectedly among the carriage-cushions, feeling that the bloom of her life was withered.

Lady Bexteymont was grieved to see her daughter so much disheartened, and said what she could to console her.

"Dearest pet, it is natural to your age, and to the fresh and tender delicacy of your unworldly feelings to exaggerate your self-accusations, and to fancy I mean more, instead of less, than I have attempted to

indicate. For words are coarse weapons, dear; and be sure of this, that I do not, and would not for worlds, think there was a shadow of foundation for what you so harshly say of yourself. Believe me, it was as a caution for the future, not a reproach for the past, that I spoke. Nor have you anything to reproach yourself with. I have seen your manner, and I know you well enough to be sure that my presence does not alter it a shade; and I could not desire or imagine a more transparent expression of the bright innocence and guileless intelligence of your character. I should not praise you, my own, to yourself unless you erred on the safe side of self-appreciation. Your manner cannot be altered for the better. Make no attempt, therefore, at disguise or reserve. Seem only what you are, and let circumstances shape themselves into destiny. Only I advise you not to frequent Georgiana more than can be helped. Your old mother would be of no use to you, darling, if she did not trouble you now and then with bits of unwelcome experience. But trust your old mother that where she sees her own pet's true happiness she will do her best to secure it."

Helen pressed her mother's hand affectionately, but she could not recover her spirits, and dressed with a heavy heart for a brilliant but (to her) very dreary dinner at the French Ambassador's.

In the mean time, after the rest of the party had gone, Strensal remained talking to Melmerby till Lord Beltane made his bow, and the two went down together. Strensal's groom was waiting with his cab, so that either the master must have foreknown where he was going after church, or the servant knew his master's habits and haunts. Beltane's vehicle had not been heard of.

"I wonder why the stupid blockhead couldn't drive after the carriage when he saw me go with Aunt Bexteymont!" He seemed unreasonably vexed by his groom's lack of omniscience. Strensal offered him a lift, which, after a moment's hesitation, he rather ungraciously accepted.

"That is, if it won't be out of your way to set me down in St. James's-street."

"I am going there, too. You won't mind going round by Hertford-street. It won't make three minutes' difference. I want to inquire at Lady Meagheraine's how poor Lady Adela really is."

"Lady De Vergund said she saw her this morning, and she was at death's door. She had had several fits of *angina pectoris*, and was not likely to live over the week. That is pretty recent news."

"I prefer the official report. There is nothing like information on the spot. I have had occasion, once or twice, to verify Lady De Vergund's version of facts."

"I know it is the fashion among pious people to shake their heads about her; but, for my part, I think she is far less black than she is painted. There is often a great deal of good in your wicked people, and a great deal of bad in your virtuous people. Society judges characters by their exceptions to its own rule of worldly prudence; and a regard for appearances is society's pinchbeck substitute for real goodness of heart. 'Give a dog a bad name,' and 'throw a stone at him if he is lame;' that is society's substitute for charity. I speak of her only as I know her, and I find her kindhearted, intelligent, and charming. I believe there is a vast deal of exaggeration in all that is said against women's characters. Society selects a reputation almost at random, and uses it as a whetstone to point its rather blunt moral upon; and adorns its tales of real life, with a great deal of not very ornamental imagination. You have just given me a mysterious intimation, intended, I suppose, to warn me against her. I am much obliged for your benevolence to me; but confess, are you not contributing a stone to her lame reputation on the strength of mere vague hearsay?"

"Since you ask me so direct a question, I will say that I know of my own knowledge that she is, or, more accurately, that she *was*, a thoroughly unprincipled and dangerous woman, when I had the misfortune to see a good deal of her misconduct. Whether she has repented and reformed her character since then I only know by the world's knowledge, which certainly does not countenance that view of her case. If you were my son or my brother I should be very much grieved to hear that you were on terms of intimacy with her; but, as you are not, perhaps I have exceeded my duty to my neighbour in hinting to you that she is anything but a profitable acquaintance for a young man."

"Indeed, I almost think you have, if poor Lady De Vergund is not to be quite excluded from 'Neighbour's Row.'"

"If I see a wayfarer man, with no signs of Thuggee or Dacoites about him, entering the establishment of Messrs. Burk and Hare, whom I know to be assassins, though society may as yet only suspect them of being resurrectionists, am I to bestow my neighbourly sympathies on the miscreants who live next door to me or on the stranger who is going into peril?"

"That entirely depends on whether you have ever helped Burk, in a neighbourly way, to spread the pitch on his plaster. If you have never touched the pitch, well and good. Hare, who came off scot free, was not considered a good neighbour to Burk, whom he gave a bad name and hanged. The fact is, king's-evidence is not popular in England."

"Lord Beltane!" said Strensal, turning upon him with a flash of indignant surprise, "you have misunderstood me, and in a most offensive manner. If I correctly interpret your innuendo, you mean that I am not only a libertine and a traitor, but a sanctimonious hypocrite into the bargain. I have never been any of these things. Therefore, please to retract what you have said, and apologise for your gross insinuation!"

Lord Beltane turned pale as death, but did not flinch.

"I have no retraction to make. It seems to me rather that you retract what you said just now, or implied, at least, of your former too intimate knowledge of Lady De Vergund's delinquencies. If I have misunderstood you, it is your own fault. If I have offended you, I desired to offend you, and the more mortally the better. You are my most deadly enemy. Ah! I know you are big and strong; but I am not afraid of you. You may do what you like with me. Take me by the scruff of the neck and pitch me out of your cab, if that is any satisfaction to you. If I light on my head and break my neck, or crack my skull, it will be a satisfaction to me."

Strensal's anger changed to alarm. "Good Heavens!" he cried, "have you suddenly gone mad?"

"No; not suddenly," said the young man through his teeth, which he kept close set to prevent them chattering in his excitement, "I have been going mad steadily and deliberately ever since I knew that you—that you"—Beltane put his hand to his temples, covering his eyes as if his brain swam, and paused for breath.

"That I what? What have I done to you, that you should wish to offend me? By Jove, I don't know what's come to you. I hope you're not going wrong in your head."

"What have you done to me? You have filched away the treasure of my soul; you have torn out the vitals of my existence. Oh! if I could but find words to tell you how I hate you. Why don't you lay violent hands on me? Have I not insulted you?"

"I'll tell you what, my boy, if you go on like that much longer I shall have to take you to one of your guardians, and say you have been behaving very queerly, and that you ought to have medical advice. You seemed reasonable enough a little while ago. Upon my word, it almost looks as if that wicked Julia had bewitched the boy. Be quiet, will you. Good God!"

This exclamation was apropos of a violent convulsion which had seized Beltane, who fell back struggling in the cab, with his eyes staring wide and his face distorted by the hideous grimaces of epilepsy, which seemed all the more ghastly by the contrast of the beautiful boyish features on which this terrible disfiguration displayed itself.

The cab had luckily just reached Hertford-street, which is alive with physicians. Dr. Farry Gorriek, whose name stood deservedly high in cases of nervous seizure, was luckily found at home.

While the doctor was applying the proper restoratives, Strensal went over the way and inquired how Lady Adela was.

The servant, who was rather deaf, at first said "Not at home, Sir," and when it was made clear to him that it was her health, not her self, that was inquired for, said, "Pretty well, Sir; much as usual. Her Ladyship the Countess have been most seriously indisposed of late, Sir."

The fact was, Lady Adela was engaged in an interview with Dr.

(To be continued.)

IT IS PROPOSED to establish an Oriental library in Bombay, to include all Sanskrit and other Oriental works.



THE COLZA HARVEST IN NORMANDY.—(FROM A PICTURE BY JULIUS BRETON.)

"THE COLZA."

WE have already in the pages of the ILLUSTRATED TIMES given some account of the great colza harvest in France, and the scene presented in the fields of Artois, when the seeds of the *chou à faucher*, or mowing cabbage, are being gathered, has been adopted as the subject of a now celebrated picture by M. Jules Breton.

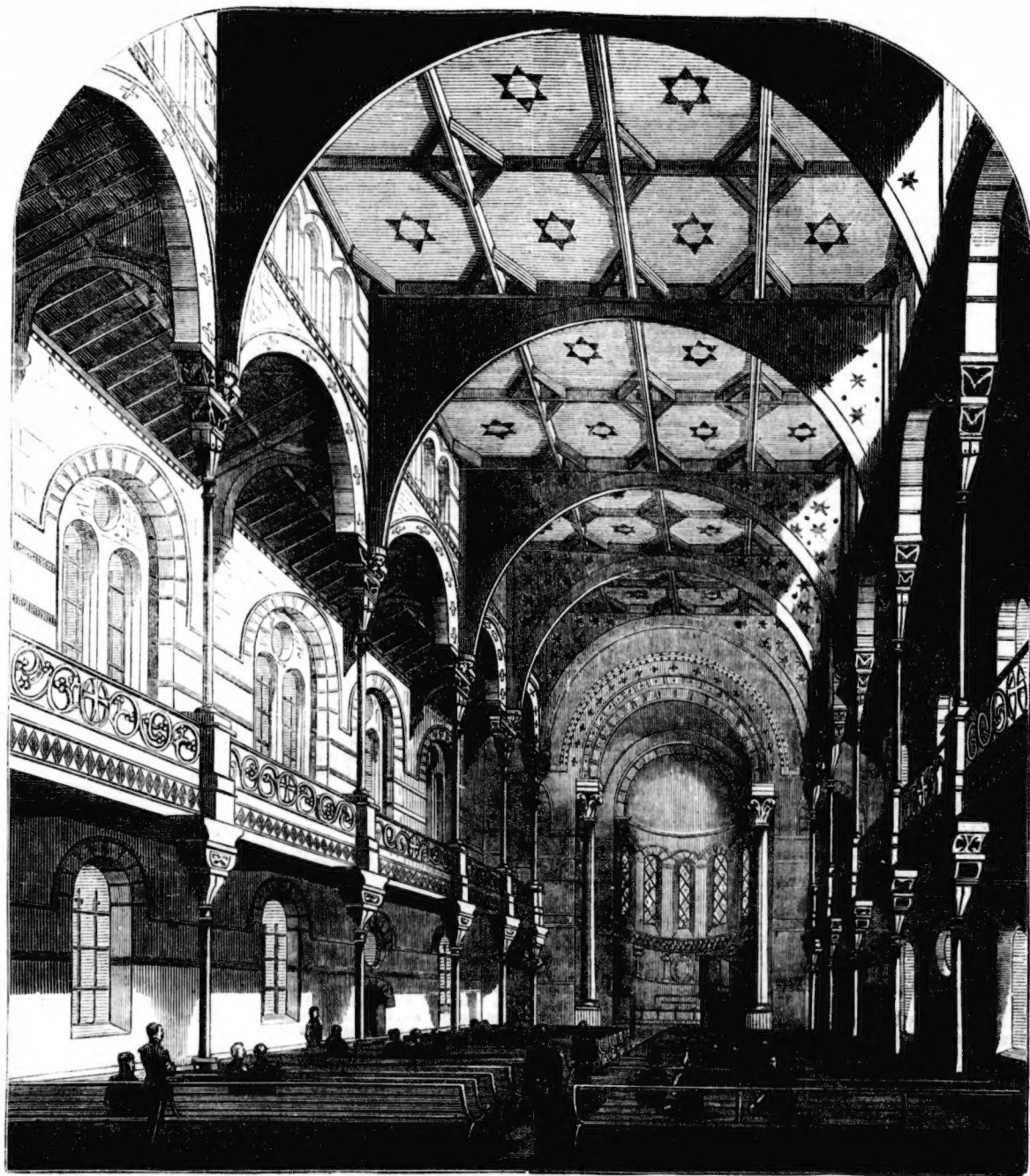
M. Breton first took rank as an artist of high attainments by his picture of "Blessing the Harvest," in the French Fine-Art Exhibition of 1857, and it was thought that this picture was one of those efforts which would never be exceeded by the artist, but in which at the same time he had fixed himself to a certain style of art. This opinion, however, was changed by his producing two other pictures, "The Calling of the Cleaners," and "Monday," the first a work of high merit and of the poetical order of art, the latter a specimen of painting from nature and ordinary life, which showed the power of the artist in both schools.

Two later pictures, however, "The Weed-Gatherers" and "The Colza," best display the real power of M. Breton. The latter, of which we publish an engraving, is a fine specimen of that bold and vigorous drawing and admirable treatment which is characteristic of the artist, who has thoroughly identified himself with these large scenes of country life.

In the pictures of M. Breton the peasantry are made the subjects, not of weakly poetical, and therefore false, representation, but of that artistic perception which, rejecting the more mean and sordid accessories, can place them on the canvas in their best aspect, and surrounded by the natural objects which are in finest and truest relation to them. There can be few better illustrations of this power than the Colza, amongst the figures in which that queen of the harvest, "The Sifter," stands out as a true peasant, but in noble proportions.

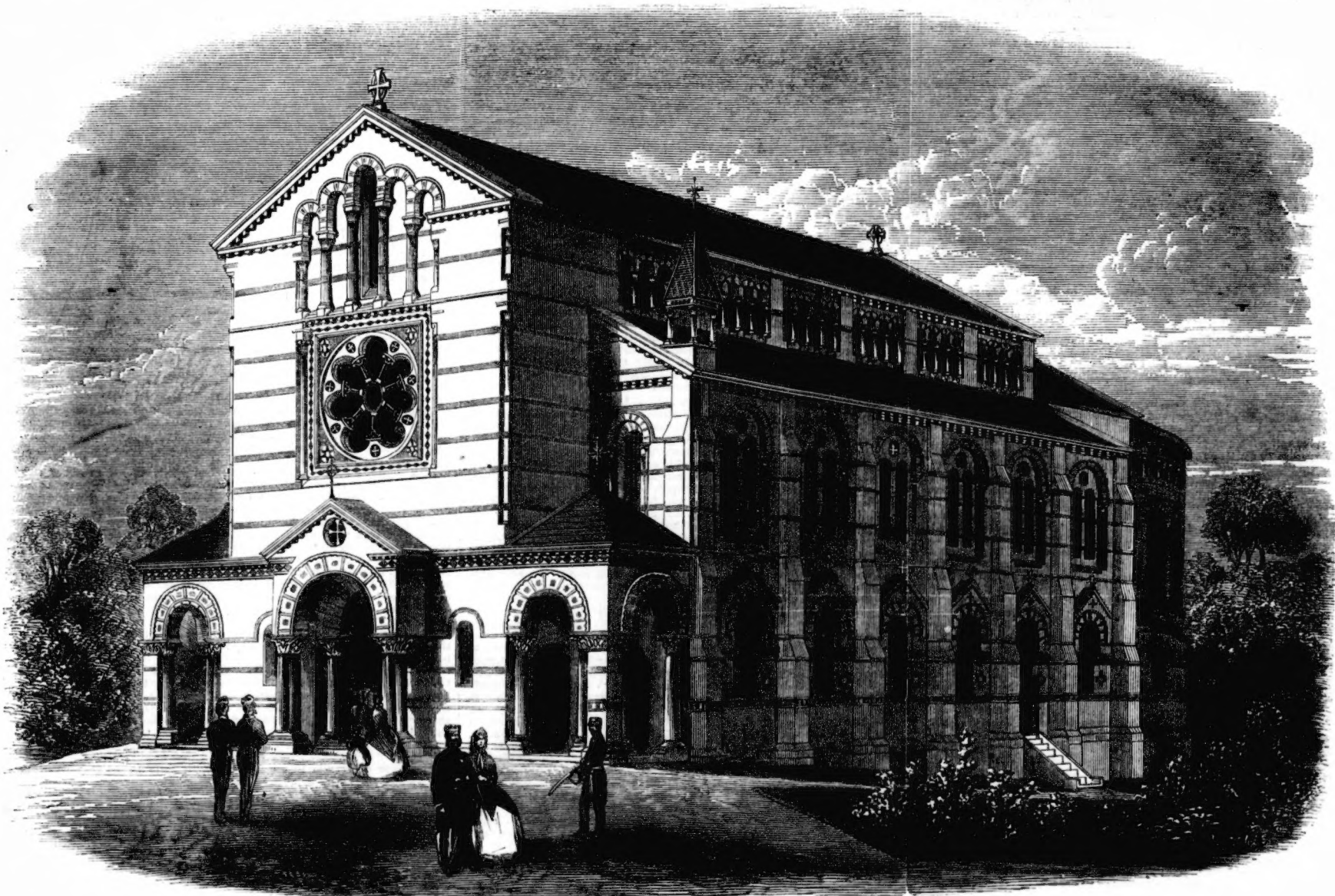
NEW MILITARY CHAPEL AT WOOLWICH.

OF late years the House of Commons has liberally voted all asked from it with a view to increase the efficiency of the Army, and to make the service more popular; and no statesman



NEW MILITARY CHAPEL AT WOOLWICH, CONSECRATED ON MONDAY LAST.—VIEW OF INTERIOR.

more judiciously took advantage of this disposition than the late Lord Herbert. He was the warmest supporter of soldiers' clubs, improved hospitals, and enlarged schemes of education, and the good which he did still lives after him. On Monday one of his favourite projects was embodied in the consecration of a new garrison church at Woolwich. For years the only place of worship for this important garrison was a small and inconvenient building, and Lord Herbert, on the part of the Government, eagerly entered into the project of building a new church which should be adequate to the wants of the garrison; and he himself settled the plans and fixed the site. Messrs. Wyatt were intrusted with the designs, and have produced an edifice which does credit to their professional skill, and will probably be a model for many such churches at our principal military stations. A garrison church generally suggests the idea of a corrugated iron shed, something akin to an ordinary railway station; but here we have a building which is worthy of a pilgrimage by all lovers of art. Calculated to accommodate 1600 persons, it is of handsome dimensions, and constructed mainly of brick and stone. Both externally and internally it is distinguished by a reality of structure and evident permanency which give it a thoroughly monumental character. The architects have succeeded in combining many of the features of early Christian structure and decoration with a legitimate and unobscured use of the building materials specially appertaining to the present state of industrial art in this country. Iron has been freely used, and in the connection of its essential forms with those of brick and stone great skill has been displayed. The War Department has spent £18,000 on the solid portion of the church; but the mosaics, stained glass, encaustic tile-work, and paintings, with which it is abundantly decorated, have been principally paid for by the subscriptions of the officers of the Royal Artillery, amounting to close upon £2000. The east window, in five compartments, is designed to commemorate the services of this distinguished corps in the Peninsular and Crimean Wars; the west window has been given by Lady Herbert, in memory of



NEW MILITARY CHAPEL AT WOOLWICH.—VIEW OF EXTERIOR.

her husband, and already promises have been received for seven of the side windows. The fine organ, by Messrs. Bevington and Son, is the gift of the officers; and an exquisite stone pulpit and font have been contributed from the same fund. It is gratifying to know that the soldiers in garrison have shown the greatest interest in the progress of the church, and they were present in large numbers on Monday. The ceremony of consecration was performed by the Bishop of London; and among the congregation were the Duke of Cambridge, as Colonel of the Royal Regiment of Artillery; Earl De Grey and Ripon, Secretary of State for War; Lord Sydney, Lord Lieutenant of the county, and Lady Sydney; the Quartermaster-General; the Adjutant-General; the Chaplain-General; Sir Richard Dares, Commandant; and most of the principal officers in the garrison. Prince Arthur was prevented from attending by the indisposition of Major Elphinstone. The Bishop of London preached an admirably practical sermon; and after the conclusion of the service a numerous company was entertained at luncheon by the officers of the garrison.

MUSIC.

THE winter concert season has now fairly set in. During the past week most of the musical societies have given some token of renewed activity, and the others are to commence operations within the next few days. Mr. Henry Leslie's admirable choir gave their first concert on Wednesday last; the Vocal Association began proceedings on Friday; the London Choral Union, a new society, established, apparently, in opposition to the last-named, gave a concert on Thursday; a trial of new orchestral compositions, under the auspices of the Musical Society, took place on Wednesday; and on Friday next the Sacred Harmonic Society are to open their campaign with a performance of Signor Costa's "Eli." In addition to all these entertainments, the Popular Concerts were recommenced on Monday last; a new organ, from last year's International Exhibition, was performed upon by Dr. Wesley, of Winchester, at the Agricultural Hall, on Tuesday; and to-night Julien's concert is to be revived by the son of the famous chef. M. Julien, jeune, has engaged Mlle. Volpini as solo-singer, and there is every probability of his speculation proving highly successful. Add to all these musical attractions the Royal English Opera, at which establishment Mr. Wallace's "Desert Flower" continues to be given every night; and we think that November can scarcely be in future considered by the amateur as the dullest month of the year.

Mr. Leslie's concert was advertised as a Mendelssohn commemoration, but without there being the slightest excuse for the description. It is true that the 4th of November happens to be the anniversary of the composer's death, and that the programme was composed exclusively of his works; but the day needs no celebration at all, and the concert gave but a very partial idea of the great man's many-sided genius. Mr. Leslie's choir is much too excellent to need any adventitious recommendation; they have seldom, if ever, acquitted themselves more admirably of their arduous tasks than on Wednesday. The very difficult eight-part psalm, "Judge me, O Lord," was given with an exactitude, delivery, and fire that astonished as well as delighted the audience. The only other important composition performed was the hymn, "Hear my prayer," the solo part of which was rendered with rare taste and expression by Mme. Lemmens-Sherrington, while the choral accompaniment was equally above reproach.

The first Monday Popular Concert afforded connoisseurs an opportunity of hearing M. Lotto as a quartet player. He was probably very nervous in the opening quartet (Beethoven's in G, No. 2 of the first set), and this may account in great measure for the thinness of his tone; but in that of Haydn, which concluded the programme, he was very much more satisfactory. His great triumph, however, was achieved in Bach's chaconne, and in the prelude in E major, which he played as the encore, after his extraordinarily brilliant performance of which he was again recalled to the platform. The pianist was Mr. Halle; the vocalists, Miss Banks and Mr. Winn; and the string quartet was made up by MM. Ries, Webb, and Piatti; Mr. Benedict resuming his post as conductor.

We might have added to the above list of musical doings a new entertainment by Mr. German Reed, which comprises an *opéra-comique*, or *opera di camera*, as he styles it, intended for a simple quartet of singers, accompanied by a pianoforte only. This first attempt to introduce "chamber opera" has resulted in an adaptation by Mr. John Oxenford, entitled "Jeany Lea," of "L'Elisir d'Amore," to which Mr. Macfarren has wedded music too charming to be summarily dismissed. We shall, therefore, return to it next week.

A COLLISION took place on the Great Eastern line, near the Brick-lane goods station, on Monday evening. The Woodford train ran into a goods engine. The collision appears to have arisen from some misapprehension as to the signals. The guard of the passenger-train was seriously hurt, and some passengers were injured.

A NEW MONSTER BALLOON.—Mr. Eugene Goddard has obtained permission to establish a workshop in the Palace of Industry for the construction of a Montgolfier balloon, to be called the "Colossus," which will greatly surpass the dimensions of M. Nadar's balloon. The latter had a capacity of 6000 cubic metres. The new air vessel will have a capacity of 14,000 metres. In a balloon of such a size it will be necessary to renounce the use of hydrogen gas. The "Giant" absorbed so much gas that it could only be inflated in two cities of Europe—London and Paris—and the cost of the conduit pipes for conveying the gas from Passy to the Champ-de-Mars, where it was inflated, was £100. The "Colossus," constructed on the Montgolfier principle, will be able to visit all the cities of Europe, even those which are lighted by oil lamps.

THE SUPPLY OF COTTON.—Mr. Cheetham, of Manchester, gives the following estimate of the amount of cotton likely to reach us next year:—India, 1,500,000 bales; Egypt, 300,000; Brazil, 185,000; America, 100,000; West Indies, 35,000; Turkey, 150,000; China, 150,000; Italy, 25,000; total, 2,445,000 bales. The final and practical conclusion drawn by Mr. Cheetham is that, instead of four and a half days' work per week, as Mr. Ashworth believes, the mills will work only four days. He also conjectures, in opposition to Mr. Ashworth, that the month of January, at any rate, must be expected to pass before any considerable portion of this supply will be available; so that, upon the whole, instead of seeing the cotton trade revive at the very beginning of the year, and continue active at the rate of four and a half days a week, we must expect to wait till spring for the recovery, and then deduct half a day per week from the average working time of the mills.

SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW OF 1863.—The Smithfield Club, being enabled to employ double the number of judges, have resolved that the examination and awards shall take place on Monday, Dec. 7, instead of Saturday, the 5th, to be completed by two o'clock on that day, at which hour the show is to be opened for the inspection of the members of the club, the holders of honorary tickets, and the public at a charge of five shillings. The Agricultural Hall Company, profiting by the experience of last year, have made various improvements for the accommodation of the club, the exhibitors, and the public. Another new feature will be the introduction of stalls for the sale of goods not agricultural, under special arrangements with the Smithfield Club; while, in consequence of complaints of the previous year, alterations are made with respect to the refreshment department.

"KNOCKOUTS."—A correspondent of the *Times* writes:—"I dare say many of your readers are unacquainted with this term. At sales by auction of pictures and other works of art it is a common custom for the dealers present to form a temporary partnership, agreeing to oppose everyone else, but not each other, in the biddings. After the sale a second auction takes place among themselves, when all the lots purchased by the several members are put up for real competition. This second sale is called a 'knockout,' and the profit or difference in the aggregate amounts of the proceeds of this second sale and the costs of the lots in the first sale is divided among the partnership. In practical illustration of the working of this system I may mention one or two circumstances. There is in the South Kensington Museum, in a black frame, a series of plaques in Limoges enamel by one of the Penfolds. This lot was knocked out for several hundreds, and sold to the Museum for, I believe, £900. Most of the lots in this Welsh sale went to the 'knock-out,' and the dealers made great plunder. One contumacious individual had made a good hit in buying for £20 a lot worth £600, and he refused to put it in the 'knock-out;' the other dealers present at the hotel in the evening inflicted summary punishment upon him; they did not hang him, I believe, though probably not from want of inclination. At a sale in Pall-mall, late in the season of this year, hundreds of pounds were, I am told, made out of single lots. At a recent sale in a midland county of the pictures of a d'Almeida gentleman, whose name was known in connection with the fine arts, I am told the profit was large. One picture made at the 'knock-out' twenty-five times the amount of the knock-down. The thing is of daily occurrence, on a great or small scale. At the celebrated Stowe sale it was carried on the first day too largely, but private collectors came in afterwards in such force as to render it in a considerable degree unproductive."

IRELAND.

STATUE OF LORD PLUNKET.—A statue of this distinguished orator and statesman, which has been erected in the Hall of the Four Courts, at Dublin, was uncovered on Monday without any ceremony whatever. The statue, which is of white marble, represents the greatest Irish statesman and orator of his time, not robed as Lord Chancellor, but as a speaker in the act of addressing the House of Commons, with a dress-coat cut after the modern fashion. This, with the closely-fitting knee-breeches, gives the statue a bare appearance. The features, too, are rather disappointing, for they do not convey the impression of intellectual power and force of character by which Plunket was pre-eminent—distinguished. We understand, however, that his family consider the likeness very good, and, as a work of art, the statue is much admired. The inscription on the pedestal is simple, if not bold:—"Plunket. Erected by the Bar of Ireland." The only other celebrity of the Bar thus commemorated in the Hall of the Four Courts is Sir Michael O'Loughlin, whose statue is placed nearly opposite that of Lord Plunket.

THE PROVINCES.

A UNIVERSITY FOR WALES.—The subject of a university for Wales is exciting considerable attention throughout the principality, and the matter is likely to be brought before the public before long in a practical shape. It is argued that as Ireland and Scotland have the advantage and privilege of several universities, Wales ought to be placed in a similar position, as in a geographical, or any other point of view, the principality is as distinct, if not more so, from England than either Scotland or Ireland. The movement has already received considerable countenance and support, and a committee of the principal noblemen, gentry, and scholars of North and South Wales is about to be formed in order to take the necessary steps for the attainment of the object in view. Mr. W. Williams, M.P. for Lambeth, who is a native of the principality, has signified his willingness to give the sum of £1000 towards the establishment of a university, and it is expected that this example will be followed by many others.

THE MAMMOTH.—A very interesting discovery was made at Leicester. A main sewer is in course of construction in the town, which is rapidly increasing, and the workmen uncovered what they at first supposed to be the base of a column. Great care is shown by the authorities of this town in preserving Roman and other remains, and the workmen, according to their instructions, carefully examined what proved to be a very interesting memorial of a bygone age—a tusk of the *elephas primigenius*, or great mammoth. It lay on the virgin or original bed of keuper sandstone, which here alternates with beds of red keeper marl, the drift gravel-beds being superposed on the top. The discovery is of more interest from the rare position of these remains of a monster mammal. Eleven feet of gravel were found above the tusk, and this gravel was very angular, showing it to belong to the glacial drift; below was a thin stratum of white keeper sandstone, then three feet of keuper, then sixteen feet of the white sandstone, and below this another stratum of marl, containing nodules of gypsum. The tusk itself was of the usual curvilinear shape, was about nine feet in length and two feet in circumference, and is larger than the specimen in the British Museum. Some difficulty was experienced in getting it out, from its very friable condition. Portions of both ends were lost, but about six feet is now in the Leicester Museum. Teeth of this immense animal have been found in the gravel in the same neighbourhood.

HARBOURS AND DOCKS IN SOUTH WALES.—Energetic efforts are being made at present to increase the harbour and dock accommodation at the different ports of South Wales, and more especially at Llanelly, Swansea, and Milford Haven. The trade of Swansea has shown such remarkable activity and increase within the last few years that it has been found desirable to take measures with the view of deepening the entrance channel, the extension of the western pier, the alteration of the east pier, and the erection of the requisite lights. The Harbour Trust of Llanelly have also seen the importance of increasing the floating accommodation at that rising port, in order to meet the wants of the daily increasing trade. The Trust have opened negotiations with the directors of the Llanelly Railway and Dock Company, and the latter have agreed to carry out the desired extensions and improvements provided the Trust will give certain guarantees in return. These the Trust have consented to give, and therefore there is every probability of the matter being brought to a successful issue. An Act was obtained last Session for the construction of docks at Milford Haven; and it is rumoured that the London and North-Western Railway Company are not unwilling to lend their powerful aid to the project.

THE TREATY OF COMMERCE BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND ITALY.—The text of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between her Britannic Majesty and the King of Italy, signed on the 29th of October last, has been published officially. The conditions are of the most liberal order, each of the high contracting parties binding themselves to impose no duties on any articles or produce of the other country than such as are payable by their own subjects; and that in all such matters as warehousing, bounties, drawbacks, &c., English and Italian merchants shall enjoy the same privileges in the respective kingdoms. There are other clauses, placing England and Italy mutually, in every mercantile privilege and freedom of trade, under all circumstances, "on the footing of the most favoured nation." Sir James Hudson's name and that of Chevalier G. Manna appear as signatory Plenipotentiaries to this almost last official act of our regretted Minister at Turin.

LORD MAYOR'S DAY.—In the proceedings in celebration of the election of the Lord Mayor there will be little, if any, departure from the programme of the preceding anniversary. The Guildhall is at present in the hands of a body of workmen, who are making the necessary preparations for the banquet to be held there on Monday evening next, after his Lordship has been sworn into office; but their task is lightened to some extent by the handsome appearance presented by the hall in consequence of the decorations of the walls by Mr. Crace on the occasion of the ball to the Prince and Princess of Wales still remaining. Mr. Crace will, however, superintend the decorations to be added for the festival on the 9th inst. The procession to and from Westminster Hall will very much resemble that of last year, except, perhaps, that there will be fewer bands.

A CHOICE.—An English gentleman writes from Mexico as follows:—"The following incident occurred this week at the station of the Paimbura Railroad. A Mexican girl—pretty and well dressed—was preparing to alight from the carriage, when a French officer and a Mexican officer in a spic and span new uniform, offered their hands to assist her in alighting. The lady said 'Entre un invaor y un traidor prefiero el primero' (Between an invader and a traitor I prefer the invader), and gave her hand to the Frenchman. The Mexican started as if he had been shot, his hat fell off, and he stood for some seconds perfectly stupefied."

THE ZOLLVEREIN.—The members of the Zollverein are to meet in a general conference at Berlin in a few days, to pronounce on a new customs tariff submitted to them by the Prussian Government. That tariff has been drawn up according to the stipulations of the Franco-Prussian treaty of commerce. Its adoption would involve the definitive adoption of that treaty; and, as a consequence, the maintenance of the Zollverein, just as its rejection would lead to the non-acceptance of the treaty and the dissolution of the German Customs Union. The deliberations, therefore, which are about to open at Berlin present a considerable interest.

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFE-BOAT INSTITUTION.—A meeting of this institution was held on Thursday at its house, John-street, Adelphi—Thomas Chapman, Esq., F.R.S., V.P., in the chair. Rewards, amounting to £68 17s., were voted to the crews of the life-boats of the society stationed at Dundalk, Fleetwood, Drogheda, Campbelltown, Southport, Fraserburgh, and Ramore, for rescuing during recent heavy gales the following shipwrecked crews:—Four men from the schooner *Arion*, of Workington; four from the schooner *Northern Lights*, of Preston; four from the schooner *Gipsy*, of Drogheda; seven from the barque *Providence*, of Dantzic; seventeen from the barque *Tamworth*, of Skein, Norway; four from the smack *Sally Jack*, of Inverness; and one from the brig *Marietta*, of Lisbon. While performing these noble services, some of which were accomplished during the dark hours of the night, the life-boats in every instance are reported to have behaved admirably, and it is said that their gallant crews never flinched for a moment under the most perilous circumstances. Rewards amounting to £19 19s. were likewise granted to the crews of the life-boats of the institution at Holyhead, Rye, Buddon Ness (Dundee), and Walmer, for assisting in bringing safely into port the Italian brig *Camogliano*; schooner *Sir Colin Campbell*, of Whitby; schooner *Giulia*, of Palermo; and the ketch *Snip*, of Amsterdam, with their crews. These vessels must have gone to pieces in the absence of the services of the life-boats. Rewards amounting to £58 4s. were likewise voted to the crews of several life-boats for putting off, in replies to signals of distress, with the view of saving life; but then the vessels had subsequently got out of danger, or their crews had been rescued by other means. Various other rewards were also granted to the crews of shore-boats for their laudable exertions in saving life from wrecks on our coasts. Captain Ward, R.N., the Inspector of the National Life-boat Institution, read a valuable report on his recent visits to the life-boats of the society from Berwick-on-Tweed to the Humber. He found the boats everywhere in excellent order. New life-boats had been sent by the institution during the past month to Teignmouth (Devon) and to Swansea. A communication was read from the Comptroller of the Royal Navy stating that it was proposed to supply all vessels of war with a life-boat, in lieu of one of the boats usually carried, and asking the institution for all the information in its power on the subject of ships' life-boats. Accordingly valuable reports were laid before the committee by Capt. Ward, R.N., the Inspector of Life-boats, and by Mr. Joseph Prowse, Surveyor of the Institution, on the subject, which were ordered to be submitted to the Lords of the Admiralty. Messrs. Forrest had also built two ships' life-boats, under the superintendence of the society, and it was decided that their Lordships should be invited to inspect the same. Payments amounting to upwards of £1000 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments. A letter was read from the Rev. E. Hewlett, Rector of St. Paul's, Manchester, stating that he was establishing an association in connection with his church on behalf of the institution, in order that they might raise the cost of a life-boat.

OBITUARY.

MR. BUNNING, THE CITY ARCHITECT.—Mr. James Bunstone Bunning, the architect to the Corporation of the city of London, died on Monday, in his sixty-first year, after a lingering illness. He had held the office of City architect for twenty years, during which he erected several important public buildings, at a cost of about £750,000, and connected, as he recently stated in a letter to the Court of Common Council, "with the education, trading, and social interests of this great city, and he trusted that they would worthily transmit his name as their officer to posterity." He referred, among others, to the Freeman's Orphan School, Billingsgate Market, the Coal Exchange, the new Cattle Market, the City Prison at Holloway, and the Lunatic Asylum—all works of magnitude and public utility. Mr. Bunning had also rendered great services to the Corporation in matters concerning their landed property. The manner in which he designed and carried out the embellishments of the city of London in honour of the entry of Princess Alexandra is still fresh in the public recollection, especially the decoration of Temple Bar and London Bridge, and the triumphal arch at the entrance to the city.

GENERAL BEDAU.—This distinguished soldier died, on the 29th ult., at Nantes, near which city he was born, on Aug. 10, 1804. He was the son of a naval officer, who placed him at an early age at La Flèche, and afterwards at St. Cyr, from which latter military college he came out, in the year 1820, with the rank of a Lieutenant on the Staff. He commenced his active military life as a captain in the Belgian campaign of 1831-2, and in 1836 was sent to Algeria, where, during a period of ten years, he won for himself both renown and promotion. For his distinguished conduct at the siege of Constantine he was appointed commander of the town after its capture. Subsequently he was employed against the Kabyles; took part in the expedition of Cherchell; held the hill of Mouzaia against the forces of Abd-el-Kader; fought the Arabs at Medeah and Miliana; and in 1842 was sent to operate on the frontiers of Morocco—where Abd-el-Kader had sought refuge—and to occupy the province of Tlemcen. Having tranquillised that district, after an immense number of conflicts with the Arabs, he took part in the battle of Isly in 1844, winning for himself a divisional generalship and the post of superior commander of the province of Constantine. He made two successful campaigns in 1845, and in 1847 was engaged in the expedition against the Kabyles of Bougie. He was Governor of Algeria for a short time, being succeeded by the Duc d'Annam, after which he returned to France, receiving the decoration of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour. He was chosen to act against the insurgent Parisians at the outbreak against Louis Philippe's Ministry, but so favoured the popular cause as greatly to forward the views of the Republicans. On the fall of the King he was nominated Minister of War by the Provisional Government of the new French Republic, but had hardly time to accept the office when he received the military command of Paris, one of his first acts being the disarming of a portion of the troops whose excesses were dreaded by the Government. Amongst his subsequent honours were his promotion to the command of the 1st Division of the Army of the Alps, his election for the Loire-Inferieure, his appointment to the vice-presidency of the Assembly, &c. In his position in the French Republic he distinguished himself as a friend of moderation, and assisted in crushing the rising of the "Reds" on the Petit Pont at Paris, where he received a wound. He refused the portfolio of Minister of Foreign Affairs, tendered to him by General Cavaignac; continuing to fulfil the duties of Vice-President of the Corps Legislatif—to which he had been elected by the department of the Seine—up to the coup d'etat in 1851. He was then arrested by order of Louis Napoleon, with Cavaignac, Changarnier, and Lamoriciere, and finally banished from France. For many years he lived privately in Belgium; but, on the proclamation of an amnesty by Napoleon III., he returned to France. He was born in 1804, and was consequently in his 59th year at the time of his decease.

SEVERE GALE.

BETWEEN Thursday, the 28th ult., and Monday, the 2nd inst., a severe gale of wind swept over nearly the entire kingdom and the Channel, which has produced very disastrous results, which might have been much more serious but for the warnings sent out to the coast stations by Admiral Fitzroy, many vessels having been thereby prevented from putting to sea, and thus saved from wreck or serious injury. Accounts from all parts of the country describe the severity of the gale and the damage done.

LONDON.

The same blast of wind which levelled the engine-shed at New Cross, as described in another column, also unroofed three houses at the end of Old Kent-road. Two of them were shops occupied by small tradesmen; but, fortunately, in these cases the inhabitants of the houses escaped. In the other case they were not so fortunate. On the opposite side of the road is a small house, in which resided a man named Mahoney, a tailor. He was sitting with four other men working, when the whole of the upper part of the house was blown away, and a pile of chimneys falling smashed the rafters, which fell upon one of the men and inflicted such severe injuries as to render his recovery doubtful. At the same time all the furniture in the room was destroyed. Mahoney himself was sitting by the side of the man who is nearly killed, but happening to look out of the window and seeing the slates from the roof flying very freely, he left the room to warn his wife to take the children into the house, when at that moment the stack of chimneys fell. The other men in the room were fortunately sitting under another rafter, which resisted the force of the wind and the falling bricks, and they escaped with a few bruises. The roof of the room adjoining also fell in with a frightful crash, destroying everything in the room. The unfortunate persons inhabiting the house were driven into the street, and momentarily expected the fall of the whole building.

The large forest trees in Hyde, St. James's, and the Green Parks were much damaged, several boughs having been torn off, and in Victoria and Battersea Parks the damage is very great. At the residence of a labouring man in Terrace-place, Stepney-green, Mile-end-road, a stack of chimneys fell upon the roof, forcing it in and causing considerable damage; but fortunately no one was injured, although several children were playing within a few feet of the spot.

The wind tore away the wires belonging to the London District Telegraph Company, which extended from Bartholomew-lane, Bank, to the Old Jewry. The crash occasioned by the snapping of the wires created considerable alarm, and it was feared at first that an explosion of gas had taken place within the Bank, where the Chartered Gaslight Company have men employed laying down new mains. The wires connected with the North London Telegraph were also blown down in the vicinity of Hawkins-street, Sydney-street, Mile-end, which completely stopped the communication at that junction of the line. The up-traffic of the river steam-boats on the ebb tide was considerably impeded by the violence of the storm. Off Rotherhithe, a large barge having struck against a tier of vessels the mooring gave way, and the tier drifted against another tier, causing extensive damage, and a considerable time elapsed before the vessels were separated.

DISASTERS AT SEA.

The gales have proved most disastrous to the fleet of steam-ships which are employed in the cattle trade between the several foreign ports of the north of Europe and London. Most of these steam-ships are strongly built vessels. Their departure from Hamburg, Tonnig, Dordt, Rotterdam, and other foreign ports of the north of Europe is so arranged that they arrive in the Thames in the course of Saturday and Sunday, so that their cattle and sheep may be at the London market on the Monday. A fleet of some ten or twelve of them left the above ports in the course of Thursday week, and on making their course across the North Sea they encountered the gales in all their severity. The *Chevy Chase*, which came up the river early on Monday, was thrown on her beam-ends, and remained so, it is stated, for nearly a quarter of an hour, with a heavy sea breaking over her. At one moment it was feared that she would not right. When she did so it was found that a large number of her cattle had been washed overboard. The Pilot steamer, from Hamburg, lost nearly the whole of her living cargo. She had on board between 600 and 700 pigs, and upwards of 500 of them are reported to have been drowned or suffocated in the hold. The *Tiger* steamer, from Tonnig, also lost a number of her cattle. Her non-arrival for a time created much anxiety, but it was afterwards ascertained that she was safe. The *Bienheim*, cattle-steamer at Harwich, has also suffered from the gales. The German steam-ship left Tonnig on the 29th ult. with a full complement of cattle on board, and nothing was heard of her till Wednesday, when she arrived in the Thames. The *Helena*, from the north, coal-laden, bound to the Medway, is reported to have sunk in the Cocker Gat, near Yarmouth, and only the master and one man have been saved. In the course of Sunday night a large Austrian brig, called the *Anna Maria*, from Buenos Ayres for London, loaded with hides, was totally lost on the Girdler Sands in making her way to the Thames. The crew are reported to have been saved.

On Saturday morning, while the smack *Questor* was proceeding towards the Humber with the shipwrecked crew of the brig *Elizabeth*, of Maldon, on board, which had been rescued from the ship, they fell in with the brig *Jane*, of Shields, apparently fast settling down. The crew, ten in number, were on the quarter, and making heart-rending cries for assistance, but, the sea running high, it was impossible to render them the least aid, and during the fearful night there is little doubt but that the whole of the poor fellows perished.

Numerous other wrecks are reported, and it is feared that accounts of still greater calamities will yet be received.

The storm appears to have told most disastrous effect upon the shipping off the Dutch and Danish coasts, and many wrecks are reported, some of them being English vessels.

THE HOUSE OF MRS. SHIELDS, of Dublin, was broken into last week, and about £60 stolen. One of the burglars, who wore a mask, held a stick over Mrs. Shields's head, and demanded her keys. She recognised the man by his voice—it was her own son!

ONE OF THE CHIMNEY-STALKS of the Midton Bleachworks, Lochwinnoch, Scotland, was blown down during the gale of Thursday week. The stalk was nearly 200 ft. high, and was only newly-erected. No other damage was done, the huge mass having fallen clear of the works.

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